



The numbers "2026" with "Happy New Year" inside of the "0".

## Happy New Year from RIPTA's Chief Executive Officer

Dear Valued Rider,

Happy new year and welcome to 2026! As we begin a new year, I want to sincerely thank you for choosing RIPTA and for placing your trust in public transit every day. Your support makes our work possible.

Looking back on 2025, I'm proud of the progress we made together. Through new programs, innovative pilot services, workforce and business partnerships, and continued investments in sustainability, RIPTA strengthened access to transit and improved the overall passenger experience. These efforts are captured in our newly released 2025 Year in Review Report and video. I encourage you to visit [RIPTA.com/YearInReview](http://RIPTA.com/YearInReview) to learn more.

As we move into 2026, RIPTA remains firmly committed to our mission: to provide safe, reliable, and cost-effective transit service with a skilled team of professionals responsive to our customers, the environment, and dedicated to transit excellence. We look forward to building on last year's

momentum, continuing to listen to our riders, and expanding mobility options that support our communities and our state.

Thank you for riding with us. I wish you a happy, healthy, and successful year ahead.

Sincerely,  
Christopher Durand  
Chief Executive Officer

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Four parked RIPTA buses lined up in a row.

## **Board Resolution Honors RIPTA Employees' Extraordinary Service**

At its December meeting, the RIPTA Board of Directors unanimously adopted a resolution recognizing the extraordinary dedication and professionalism of RIPTA employees following the tragic events at Brown University on December 13, 2025. In the midst of chaos and uncertainty, RIPTA operators and personnel stepped up without hesitation, safely transporting students and providing critical support. RIPTA CEO Christopher Durand and the Board expressed their deepest gratitude to all employees involved, noting that their actions exemplified RIPTA's core values of service, reliability, and unwavering commitment to the people of Rhode Island.

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Fountain pen resting on a paper calendar.

## 2026 Sunday/Holiday Schedule

The following are the legal holidays in Rhode Island that will be observed by RIPTA. On holidays, Sunday schedules for each route will be observed, when available.

- **New Year's Day** — Thursday, January 1, 2026
- **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** — Monday, January 19, 2026
- **Memorial Day** — Monday, May 25, 2026
- **Juneteenth** — Friday, June 19, 2026
- **Independence Day** — Observed Friday, July 3, 2026
- **Victory Day** — Monday, August 10, 2026
- **Labor Day** — Monday, September 7, 2026
- **Indigenous Peoples' Day/Columbus Day** — Monday, October 12, 2026
- **Veterans Day** — Wednesday, November 11, 2026
- **Thanksgiving Day** — Thursday, November 26, 2026
- **Christmas Day** — Friday, December 25, 2026



RIPTA Winter Service Changes graphic with blue tones.

## Winter Service Changes to Take Effect Saturday, January 17, 2026

RIPTA will implement winter service changes effective Saturday, January 17, 2026. RIPTA makes regular service adjustments three times a year in response to seasonal changes and passenger use.

These scheduled winter service changes are cost-neutral and reflect recent feedback received directly from riders. Adjustments include trip time changes on select express routes to better align with passengers' work schedules.

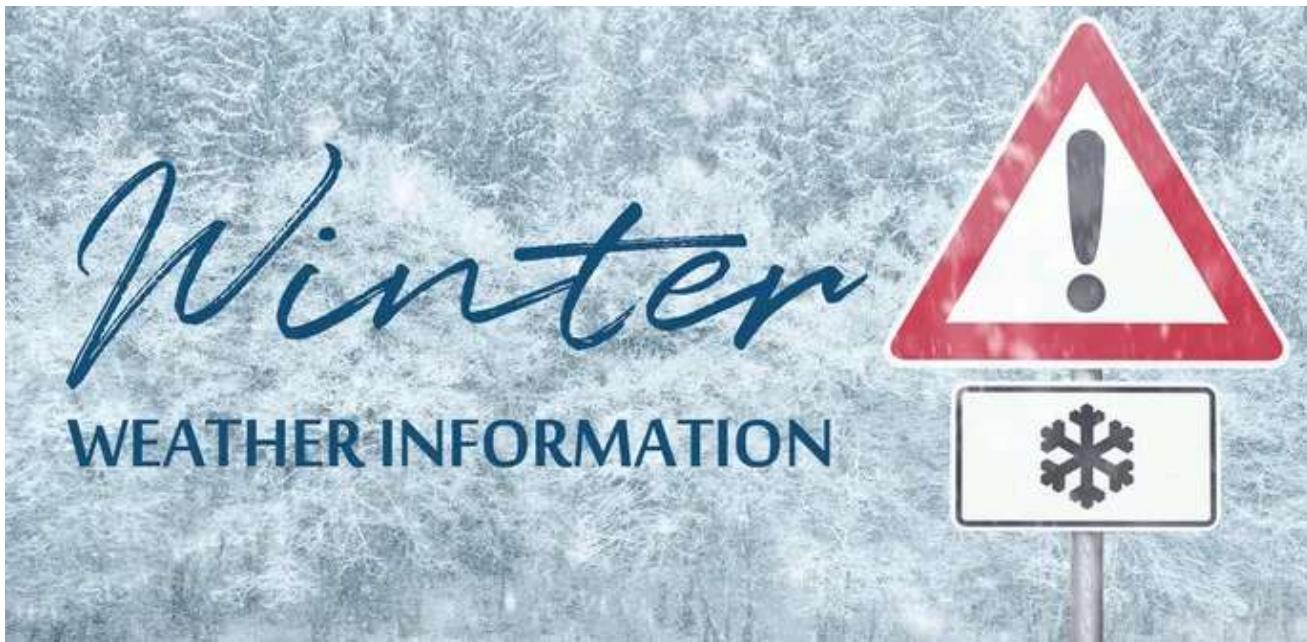
[Click here](#) to see if your route is affected.



The cover of the Draft State Management Plan, featuring a RIDE van, members of ATAC, a gentleman in a wheelchair exiting a RIPTA bus, and the RIPTA logo.

## Share Your Feedback: Draft RI State Management Plan

RIPTA's State Management Plan documents policies and procedures for the administration of four Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant programs: Section 5310, 5311, 5317, and 5339(a). An updated draft is currently available for public review on the [website](#). If you have any comments on the plan, email them to [Joelle Kanter](#) by Friday, January 9, 2026.



Winter Weather Information Alert graphic.

## Winter Weather Preparation

We all know New England winters can be a wild ride! Our buses are ready to face the snow and ice, but delays can happen. Rest assured our bus drivers will be working to reach your stop as soon as possible. Buses not only get slowed down by the snow, but also by surrounding traffic. Plan a little extra time for your commute and bundle up at your stop.

Passengers are always advised to use extreme caution at bus stops due to decreased visibility and slippery conditions. Stay in the know with RIPTA alerts on [RIPTA.com/alerts](https://RIPTA.com/alerts), the Transit app, or our social media channels. Your safety and travel are always our top priority!

Sign up for email alerts for the routes you ride. This service provides subscribers with information about detours, temporary service disruptions and service changes.

### HOW TO SIGN UP FOR EMAIL ALERTS

To sign up for email alerts, visit <https://www.ripta.com/schedules>.

Click on the route you would like to receive alerts for and then click on "Receive Updates for This Schedule." Enter your email address in the form that pops up and then click "Subscribe."

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Providence Bruins player hands a box of toys to a RIPTA driver.

## RIPTA Drives Up Holiday Cheer

The holiday season was filled with generosity, as RIPTA proudly joined forces with the Providence Bruins for the Fill A Bus Toy Drive to benefit the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. The event invited the public to fill a bus with donated brand-new, unwrapped toys ensuring countless children experienced the magic of the holiday season.

We love these partnerships and are so grateful to everyone who participated—it truly made the holidays brighter for so many in our community!

Additionally, RIPTA staff embraced the spirit of giving by donating to the Elder Angel Giving Tree, a program dedicated to fulfilling holiday wish lists for older adults in our community. This year, more than 53 local seniors received gifts.

The effort was met with overwhelming enthusiasm, and we're incredibly proud of our team for making a meaningful difference in the lives of Rhode Islanders.



A smiling Nicole extends her hand out to present a Route 92 trolley bus. A "RIPTA Rider of the Week" bus stop sign graphic appears in the bottom right corner.

## Rider of the Week: Nicole

Nicole has been riding RIPTA since she was a teen. Between parking costs and peace of mind, this Downtown Providence resident prefers to leave driving to the pros. Say "hi" to Nicole next time you're at Providence Noodle Bar. Her go-to order? Their Italian-Asian fusion noodle dish, the Mala Rose Ragu!

[Click here](#) to watch the full RIPTA Rider of the Week highlight.

RIPTA's Rider of the Week series aims to highlight real Rhode Islanders who use public transit not only to commute to work but also to travel to school, medical appointments, grocery stores, religious services, and recreational activities. With this series, we hope to share their authentic stories and inspire others along the way who may be reconsidering traveling by car. Want to be featured? Email [marketing@RIPTA.com](mailto:marketing@RIPTA.com).



Woman holding a Wave card in front of a RIPTA bus.

## Photo ID Road Trips for RIPTA's Reduced Fare Bus Pass Program

RIPTA's Photo Identification staff will travel to communities throughout the state to process Reduced Fare applications for qualified seniors and individuals with disabilities who are unable to get to our office in Kennedy Plaza. Staff also provides travel training.

Reduced Fare Photo ID Wave cards cost \$10 and are valid for two years. Replacement cards are \$20.

[Click here](#) to view the schedule for upcoming RIPTA Photo ID Road Trips.

RIPTA staff will process Photo ID Wave card applications at the following locations:

- **PAWTUCKET** Thursday, January 8 • 10 AM - 12 PM | Leon Mathieu Senior Center, 420 Main Street
- **NEWPORT** Thursday, January 15 • 10 AM - 12 PM | William Donovan Manor, 19 Chapel Street
- **PROVIDENCE** Thursday, January 29 • 10 AM - 12 PM | St. Elizabeth Apartments, 700 Westminster Street

For information on how to qualify for RIPTA's Reduced Fare Program for Seniors and People with Disabilities, call (401) 784-9500, ext. 2012 or visit [RIPTA.com/ReducedFare](http://RIPTA.com/ReducedFare).

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Rider Alert Graphic.

## SERVICE ALERTS

### Holiday Service

- [Dr. Martin Luther King Day \(Monday, January 19\)](#): Sunday/Holiday schedule.

The Flex Service reservation line (401) 784-9500, ext. 1220 and the RIdc reservation line (401) 461-9760 will not be staffed.

705 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, RI 02907 [unsubscribe](#)