



RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY

# Proposed Summer 2024 Service Changes

RIPTA Public Hearings | April 2024

# Agency Goals

- **100% of the service, 100% of the time**
  - Recalibrate schedules with the level of service RIPTA can consistently run, so that service is accurate and reliable for passengers.
- **Improve Productivity**
  - RIPTA tries to maximize efficiency.
  - Productivity measures:
    - Passengers/trip
    - Passengers/hour
    - Passengers/mile
- **Minimize Impacts to RIPTA Riders**
  - Preserve access for as many riders as possible.





# Driver Recruitment

- **Hire more drivers so that RIPTA can reinstate service levels.**
- **Increased driver starting wage to \$25.33 in February**
- **Driver Onboarding Takes Time**
  - Once a candidate is fully onboarded it takes 8-9 weeks before they can be behind the wheel.

**Our goal is to reinstate service levels once our workforce shortage is resolved.**



# Public Hearings



**RIPTA TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS ON**

**PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGES**



## **PUBLIC HEARING DATES:**

FEBRUARY 12 – 15, FEBRUARY 19 & 21, 2024

Visit [RIPTA.com/PublicHearings](https://www.ripta.com/PublicHearings) for details.

- Original proposed service changes, scheduled for implementation on April 6, 2024, were in direct response to RIPTA's driver shortage.
- Eleven public hearings held statewide with over 300 attendees. Over 100 comments were received via email and voicemail.
- **Proposed service changes postponed to June 15, 2024**
  - Additional time to monitor the effects of the new driver wage increase
  - Revise service changes to mitigate impact on riders
  - Anticipated increase in cancelled trips
    - Real-time notifications implemented to alert passengers of lost service

# Why Hold Additional Public Hearings?

To present proposals for **NEW** mitigated service changes. Example:

	Original Proposal	NEW Revised Proposal
Route 4	Eliminate Sunday service	Reduce service hours on Sunday

Since we **did not** present this **specific change** in February, we **must conduct new** hearings. These new changes primarily affect routes in Providence and Kent counties, so we are only holding hearings in those areas.

Any original proposed changes that were not revised - like the elimination of Route QX – do not require a new set of hearings.

All previous public hearing testimony has been submitted to the Board of Directors.

# Service Improvements

Service on Routes 51, 54, 72 and 92 was previously reduced in Fall 2022 due to the driver shortage. RIPTA is proposing to restore some of this service.

Route 51	Charles St./Twin River/CCRI
Route 54	Lincoln/Woonsocket
Route 72	Weeden/Central Falls
Route 92 (Fall)	East Side/Federal Hill/RI College
Route 95x	Westerly Park-N-Ride

Route 95x is proposed to stop at CCRI Warwick.



# Route Eliminations

Routes proposed for **elimination** are the **lowest performing** in RIPTA's system, carrying an average of **0.4 to 5.1 passengers** per trip on weekdays. *(For reference, the R-Line carries 37.2 passengers per trip.)*

Route QX	Quonset Express
Route 12x	Arctic/117 Express Park-n-Ride
Route 59x	North Smithfield/Lincoln Mall
Route 61x	Tiverton/East Bay Park-n-Ride
Route 76*	Central Ave.
Route 80*	Armistice Blvd.
Route 88	Simmons Village Service

**Routes 9x, 10x, 23, 68, and 73**  
are no longer scheduled for elimination.

**Routes 76 and 80**  
will be restructured into a new Route 70.



# New Route 70

## Where will Route 70 go?

- Pawtucket-Central Falls Transit Center
- Stop & Shop
- St. Raphael Academy

## When will Route 70 run?

- Weekdays and Saturday

## How often will Route 70 run?

- Weekdays 7:10am-5:53pm
- Saturday 9:10am-4:53pm
- 60-minute frequency

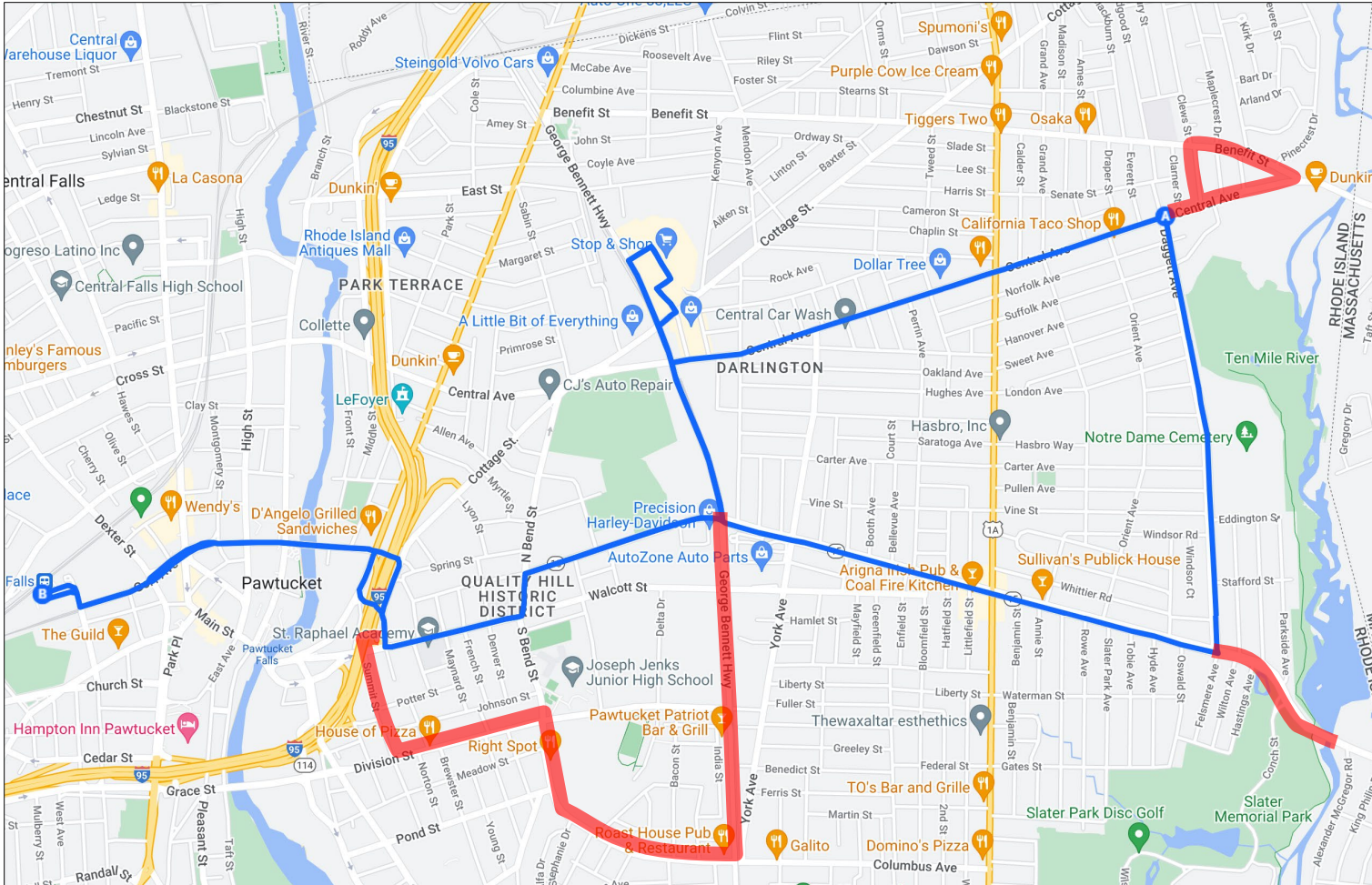
## Which streets will Route 70 travel on?

- Walcott St.
- Central Ave.
- Armistice Blvd.
- Daggett Ave.





# New Route 70



Red line indicates areas no longer served by Route 76 or 80.

# Route Segment Eliminations

Route 6	Prairie Ave./CCRI/RW Zoo	This route will no longer serve Colony House
Route 14	West Bay	All service between North Kingstown and Narragansett (Saturday only)
Route 16	Bald Hill/New England Tech	All service between First & Main and Quonset
Route 58	Mineral Spring/North Providence	All service between Mineral Spring Avenue to Rte. 146 (one trip affected)
Route 68	CCRI NPT/Mem. Blvd./First Beach	All service between the Newport Transportation Center and CCRI Newport

**Route 16 will terminate at First & Main in East Greenwich instead of New England Tech. Frequency will be reduced to every 90 minutes from every 60 minutes. Span of service will be reduced.**

**Route 64 will continue to serve Boston Neck Rd. and the URI Bay Campus with a reduced number of trips. Additionally, Flex 203 serves URI Bay Campus on request.**

**Route 63 riders can connect to Route 68 with a timed transfer at the Newport Transportation Center to travel to CCRI Newport, the beaches, and DHS.**

# Elimination of Weekend Service

## Elimination of Saturday Service

Route 18	Union Ave.
Route 64	Newport/URI/Kingston Station
<b>Route 58 will continue to have Saturday service.</b>	

## Elimination of Sunday Service

Route 23	Arctic/Crompton/Centre of NE
<b>Routes 4, 16, 69 and 71 will continue to have Sunday service.</b>	

## Elimination of All Weekend Service

Route 6	Prairie Ave./CCRI/RW Zoo
Route 29	CCRI Warwick/Conimicut
Route 75	Dexter/Lincoln Mall
<b>Routes 13 and 30 will continue to have weekend service.</b>	



## Service Changes: Decrease Frequency

		<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Day of Week</b>
Route 6	Prairie Ave./CCRI/RW Zoo	60 peak 30 mid-day	30 peak 60 mid-day	Weekday
Route 16	Bald Hill /New England Tech	60 minutes	90 minutes	Weekday/Sat/Sun
Route 18	Union Ave.	30 peak	60 peak	Weekday
Route 21	Reservoir/Malls/CCRI	40 minutes	50 minutes	Saturday
Route 64	Newport/URI Kingston	60 peak 90 mid-day	3 peak trips	Weekday
Route 65x	Wakefield Express	3 peak trips	2 peak trips	Weekday
Route 87	Fairmount/Walnut Hill	40 minutes	80 minutes	Saturday/Sunday
Route 95x	Westerly Express	3 peak trips + mid-day	2 peak trip, no mid-day	Weekday

RIPTA is proposing to **decrease frequency** on these **low ridership** routes, while still providing a reliable and convenient service for passengers. **Decreasing frequency** will **enhance** the system's **dependability** while **reducing** the occurrence of **missed trips** due to the driver shortage.

# Service Changes: Decrease Span

RIPTA is proposing to **decrease span** on these **low ridership** routes, while still providing a reliable and convenient service for passengers.

**Decreasing the span of service** will **enhance** the system's **dependability** while **reducing** the occurrence of **missed trips** due to the driver shortage.

		<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Route 3	Oakland Beach	<b>Sun:</b> 7:18a-8:12p	<b>Sun:</b> 9:30a-4:50p
Route 4	Warwick Neck	<b>Sun:</b> 6:25a-7:25p	<b>Sun:</b> 9:20a-5:00p
Route 13	Coventry/Arctic/CCRI	<b>Sat:</b> 5:30a-10:10p <b>Sun:</b> 6:30a-9:12a	<b>Weekend:</b> 7:30a-7:30p
Route 16	Bald Hill /New England Tech	<b>Weekday:</b> 5:27a-10:50p <b>Sat:</b> 6:26a-10:48p <b>Sun:</b> 7:24a-9:49p	<b>Weekday:</b> 6:30a-6:30p <b>Weekend:</b> 6:30a-7:00p
Route 23	Arctic/Crompton/Centre of NE	<b>Weekday:</b> 5:43a-10:33p <b>Sat:</b> 5:35a-9:51p <b>Sun:</b> 6:15a-9:56p	<b>Weekday:</b> 8:30a-5p <b>Sat:</b> 8:30a-5p <b>Sun:</b> No Service
Route 71	Broad St/Pawtucket Ave	<b>Sun:</b> 7:15a-5:57p	<b>Sun:</b> 8:45a-5:00p
Route 73	Mineral Spring/Twin River/CCRI	<b>Weekday:</b> 6:50a-7:35p	<b>Weekday:</b> 8:30a-4:05p

# Next Steps

- Feedback from today's public hearing will be presented to RIPTA's Board of Directors at their next meeting.
- Public comment will be accepted through April 16, 2024, via email at [marketing@ripta.com](mailto:marketing@ripta.com) or by calling 401-784-9500 x1101.
- The Board of Directors will vote on the proposed service changes. If approved, service changes would go into effect on Saturday, June 15, 2024.





# Public Comment

- Each commenter will be limited to three (3) minutes per person. Please state your name clearly and where you live for our notetaker.
- Comments unrelated to these hearings will not be submitted into public record. All comments must be received by close of business on April 16, 2024.
- Additional comments may be submitted in writing, either with the form provided at the sign-in table or via email at [marketing@ripta.com](mailto:marketing@ripta.com).
- Copies of Title VI SAFE Analyses and Neighborhood Impact Statements are available at sign-in table.
- RIPTA's Title VI program is available at RIPTA.com.
- **Please hold questions until AFTER the comment period.** RIPTA staff will be available to answer questions.

