



RATE RIPTA!

RIPTA wants to know how satisfied their customers are with their bus service. You're invited to take the American Bus Benchmarking

Group Customer Satisfaction Survey, available online from Monday, April 4 – Sunday, May 1. Each participant will be automatically entered to win a RIPTA prize pack which includes a \$50 gift card to [Revolution American Bistro](#), a \$50 gift card to [Elmwood Diner](#), and a 10 Ride Pass if he/she chooses to provide their contact information. [Click here](#) to take the survey.

COMMUNITY MEETING: 231 SOUTH AQUIDNECK FLEX SERVICE

**Monday, April 11 • 12:45PM – 2PM •
Newport Public Library**



RIPTA is considering making changes to the South Aquidneck Flex Zone to better serve customers in and around Newport. RIPTA is proposing to modify the Flex Zone to cover a slightly smaller area and introduce more frequent scheduled stops at key destinations to reduce the need to make advanced reservations. Unfortunately, RIPTA cannot expand the zone to serve more distant destinations at this time, as that would reduce the efficiency of the service and would not allow scheduled stops to be served consistently. The feedback RIPTA receives from this public meeting will determine the changes to the 231 South Aquidneck Flex Zone.



PROVIDENCE STATION: BUSY AND GETTING BUSIER ALL THE TIME

RIPTA officials recently joined **U.S. Senator Jack Reed** along with

officials from the State and the City of Providence in order to celebrate the completion of a \$6.9 million upgrade of Amtrak's Providence train station and surrounding grounds. RIPTA was part of the multi-year project from the start, deciding in 2014 to add the station as a stop along its high-frequency R-Line. RIPTA already had bus service to the station, but the addition of the R-Line stop enabled the Authority to substantially increase service and ridership there.

RIPTA now has 32 buses per hour serving the train station (20 on the north side, 12 on the south side) and as a result, weekday boardings and lightings have jumped from an average of about 189 on weekdays to 271. "For RIPTA, this project afforded us the opportunity of adding a stop...that has been a great addition," said **Warwick Mayor Scott Avedisian, Chairman of the transit authority's Board of Directors**. "As a result, our passenger trips at the station have gone up dramatically. In addition, this key connection makes bus-rail travel easier, and that is so important as the state is in the process of investing further in the train station as a true intermodal hub."

The plan to create an intermodal hub at the station – with more bus routes beginning and ending there as well as other development on the site --- is still being formalized, but even now the station is a critical public transportation stop along the Northeast corridor is also a gateway to the state's capitol city.

Senator Reed noted that the station attracts more than one million Amtrak and Massachusetts Bay Transportation (MBTA) passengers each year. Those ridership numbers put it in the top 15 Amtrak stations nationwide. Built in 1986, the facility needed some upgrades and the project, which was overseen by the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT), addressed water seepage in the station's underground garage, improved traffic circulation, and added amenities for bicyclists as well as updated signage and landscaping.

JOIN RIPTA AT THE HEART WALK ON SUNDAY, JUNE 5

Lace up your sneakers! For the second year in a row, RIPTA is proud to be a sponsor the Southern New England Heart Walk. The event draws more than 9,000 participants to downtown Providence, and this year is offering a new route for “heart and stroke survivors” in addition to the 3.5 mile loop for all participants.



The goal of the Heart Walk is to raise \$750,000 for cardiovascular research and education – while also raising awareness of the importance of physical activity and health nutrition for all Americans. Corporations, family and friends form teams to raise awareness and funds for the fight against heart disease and stroke.

American Heart Association investments have helped to bring “heart milestones” such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), microsurgery, heart valve replacement, coronary bypass surgery, the pacemaker and drug treatments for high blood pressure and congestive heart failure and many others. In Southern New England alone, the American Heart Association funds \$29,972,815 in research annually!

This year’s walk will start at 100 Gaspee Street, Station Park in Providence.

Registration/festivities begin at 7 AM. The walk begins at 8:30 AM.

For more information or to register, [click here](#).



PROVIDENCE EARTH DAY SPRING CLEANING 2016

RIPTA is working with the City of Providence and WBRU on cleaning up parks around the state of Rhode Island. On Saturday, April 23rd, RIPTA will provide complimentary transportation to individuals who have signed up to volunteer and help clean up the parks. For information on how you can participate in the Providence Earth Day Spring Cleaning, [click](#)

[here](#).

Congratulations to Linda G. of Providence!

She's the winner of our 50th Anniversary Bus Pass Design Contest! Her winning design will be featured on our August & September 2016 monthly bus passes. BIG THANK YOU to [Revolution American Bistro](#), [Say Cheese](#), [Lang's Bowlarama](#), and [Providence Bruins](#) for hooking her up with an awesome prize pack!



THE RIPTA STORE IS NOW OPEN

Welcome Aboard! Whether you're a faithful commuter or just call your "Uncle RIPTA" every once in a while, show your love for transit with an item from our online store! [Click here](#) to see the t-shirts and hats currently available.

GET GORED FOR GOOD FESTIVAL FUNDRAISER



RIPTA will detour Routes 1, 3, 6, 20, 22, 27, 28, 30, 33, 34, 60, 66, 92, and the R-Line on Sunday, April 24, to accommodate the Get Gored for Good Festival Fundraiser. Detours will be in effect from 7am to 12pm. [Click here](#) for details.



BLACKSTONE VALLEY RUNNING FESTIVAL

RIPTA will detour Routes 1, 71, 72, 75, 78 and the R-Line on Sunday, April 24, 2015 in order to accommodate the Blackstone Valley Running Festival, which includes the Annual Blackstone Valley Half Marathon. Detours will be in effect from 6am to 12:30pm. Details [here](#).



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