



Weigh In on The Future of Transportation in Rhode Island!

The Rhode Island Division of Statewide Planning is updating its Long-Range Transportation Plan and they want to hear from you! Your valuable feedback will help identify the state's needs, challenges, and opportunities, informing the vision, goals, strategies, and projects included in the final plan, called Moving Forward RI 2050.

This is an opportunity for you to provide input on how transit and the [Transit Master Plan](#) should help shape Moving Forward RI 2050.

[Click here](#) to take the survey.



ALT TEXT: Photo of a RIPTA bus, bicycle sign and a bridge



Planning Intern Avery K. takes a photo of a bus stop sign. Photo Credit: Chris Shea/RI Current

Bus Stop Inventory in Progress

RIPTA is in the process of surveying our 3,000+ bus stops throughout the state to assess their quality and condition. The inventory is a part of our larger Bus Stop Improvement Program that involves the installation of shelters, amenities, ADA enhancements, and signage. If you notice RIPTA employees recording notes and photos at bus stops, say hello! We're only

recording the status of the bus stop, not our passengers' activities. If you have any questions or relevant feedback, please ask the surveyor or contact (401) 784-9500 ext.1217.

[Click here](#) to read RI Current's coverage of this process.

Say Good-Bye to Paper

...and say "Hello!" to Wave! **It's officially been four years since RIPTA introduced the Wave smart fare collection system to Rhode Island!**

Are you still holding on to old paper fare products? Exchange them today! Transfer the value over to your Wave account by filling out [this form](#) and then mailing your unused fare products to RIPTA.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Wave.



Old paper fare products



Student showing their September paper monthly pass

Providence Public School District Students: Need a Ride to High School?

RIPTA will take you there! In addition to regular fixed-route service, RIPTA also runs special trips to Providence public schools. We've created flyers and instructional

videos to help you navigate our bus service. **Visit [RIPTA.com/PVDschools](https://www.ripta.com/PVDschools) and click on your school for details.**

Download the [Transit app](#) to track your trip in real-time! While our goal is to never miss a trip, sometimes we must cancel a trip due to a mechanical issue or unforeseen driver availability. When that happens, you can check the Transit app to see if a trip has been cancelled and plan alternate ways to get to school. You'll know when a trip has been cancelled when the departure time has a grey and crossed out real-time symbol.

Remember, you can always use the Trip Planner on [RIPTA.com](https://www.ripta.com) to plan your trip from home to school or call RIPTA Customer Service at 401-784-9500 x2012 for assistance.



Call for Artists

Are you an artist with a passion for social justice? Apply to have your art featured in a bus shelter honoring Rosa Parks and her pivotal role in the Civil Rights Movement!

Interested participants should send in a resume and work samples along with a proposal including sketches and a description of your design by September 16, 2024. The winner will have their work reproduced across five

Call for Artists: Design RIPTA's Rosa Parks bus shelter

glass panels installed in a bus shelter on Smith Street in Providence.

The artwork should be specifically designed for glass, considering transparency, light interaction, and visibility from both sides. Techniques such as etching, stained glass, or glass decals can be used.

For more details about the project, visit: [RIPTA.com/RosaParks](https://ripta.com/RosaParks).

Catch the Bus to the Beach All Year Long!

The summer season may be over, but the fun doesn't have to stop! While our express service to the South County beaches has ended, you can still catch some waves with our daily year-round service on Route 66 (URI/CCRI Warwick/Providence). Starting from Kennedy Plaza, this bus runs every 30 minutes on weekdays and every 55 minutes on Saturdays and Sundays, taking you to the beautiful South County beaches.



ALT TXT: Bus stop sign in the sand

But that's not all! RIPTA offers year-round service to a variety of Rhode Island's stunning beaches and parks. So, grab your sunscreen and hop on board! Visit [RIPTA.com/beachservice](https://www.ripta.com/beachservice) to learn more and plan your next adventure.

Also, starting this Saturday, August 31, Route 66 (URI/CCRI Warwick/Providence) will magically transform into Route 69 (Narragansett/Galilee) at URI, giving you a smooth, one-seat ride all the way to Galilee. Route 66 runs every 30 minutes, but from Monday through Friday, only every other trip will connect seamlessly to Route 69. Be sure to check the schedule to see which trips continue to Galilee! On weekends, every Route 66 trip becomes Route 69.

Join the RIPTA Team as a Service Planner II

Do you have a knack for logistics and a love for public transit? We're looking for someone who can help us optimize routes, enhance schedules, and make travel smoother for everyone in Rhode Island. As a Service Planner II, you'll dive into data, collaborate with a dedicated team, and shape the future of transit in our community.



Ready to make an impact? Apply now and let's build a better commute together! Applications must be received by September 6, 2024. [Click here](https://www.ripta.com/careers) to apply online.

For a full list of open positions, including drivers, visit [RIPTA.com/careers](https://www.ripta.com/careers).

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Anthony Mace,



Mechanical/Technical Support and Mechanical Trainer

Anthony Mace, known as Tony, T, and T-Mace to his colleagues, works in RIPTA's maintenance garage, or as he calls it, the "bus emergency room." This

resourceful and critical thinker has been solving mechanical and electrical issues on RIPTA's fleet of 220 buses and 100 passenger vans for fourteen years. As one half of RIPTA's training team for newly hired mechanics, Tony also helps new hires in our Maintenance Department get acclimated to our buses and system.

What is Tony's secret to being a good trainer? Repetition and having a little fun. First, he discusses a topic, such as front-end brakes, with new hires in a classroom setting using training videos. Next, he provides one-on-one, hands-on learning on RIPTA vehicles. If a mechanic can't figure out what's causing a problem, Tony inspires them to unlock their inner detective - walking mechanics through the process to diagnose and correct the issue. "I get everybody to treat it like a little mystery," says Tony.

Before joining RIPTA, Tony worked for various bus companies including DATTCO. In school, he studied engineering but wasn't satisfied coming up with solutions and plans that worked on paper but weren't tested in the real world. He holds a degree in advanced automotives, with specialized knowledge of trucks, buses, and cars. Given his background, it's no surprise that Tony's favorite hobby outside of work involves tinkering.

He is a guitar luthier - a person who repairs guitars - and enjoys fixing amplifiers and electronics. He is also a musician, playing both guitar and bass. During the summer months, this East Providence native likes to stay cool, so you'll catch him riding out the humidity indoors with Turts, his pet turtle, and watching online videos on electronics repair.

Call him the bus doctor? "We're all doctors," Tony laughs. Doctor or detective, one thing is for sure - we're lucky to have Tony leading the talented team of mechanics who keep RIPTA, and Rhode Island, moving forward.

RIPTA Photo ID Bus Pass Road Trips

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

RIPTA staff will process Photo ID bus passes at the following locations:

WARWICK

Thursday, September 12 • 9:30 AM-11:30 AM
Pilgrim Senior Center
27 Pilgrim Parkway

WOONSOCKET

Thursday, September 19 • 9 AM-11 AM
Woonsocket Senior Center
84 Social Street

NARRAGANSETT

Thursday, September 26 • 11 AM-1 PM
Narragansett Community Center
53 Mumford Road

Photo ID bus passes cost \$10 and are valid for two years.

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

For information on how to qualify for RIPTA's Bus Pass Program for Seniors and People with Disabilities, customers can call (401) 784-9500, ext. 2012 or visit RIPTA.com/ReducedFare.



Two women looking at RIPTA's How to Ride Guide for Seniors.

SERVICE ALERTS

HOLIDAY SERVICE

RIPTA Observes Labor Day

RIPTA will operate all regular fixed-route bus service on a Sunday/Holiday schedule on Monday, September 2 in observance of Labor Day. All RIPTA offices will be closed on the holiday, except for the Customer Service Kiosk in the Newport Transportation Center. [Click here](#) for details.

DETOURS

[East Side Tunnel Closure: Now through October 2024](#)

Routes 1, 32, 33, 34, 40 and 61x are on detour through mid-October.

[West River Street Bridge Detour: Now through November 2024](#)

Route 58 is on detour through November due to the West River Street Bridge Replacement Project.

[PVD Fest: Friday, September 6 - Sunday, September 8](#)

Routes 1, 3, 4, 6, 9X, 10X, 12X, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24L, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 40, 50, 51, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59X, 60, 61X, 65X, 66, 72, 78, 92 and the R-Line will be detoured all day and night. **All bus stops in Kennedy Plaza will be temporarily relocated to Dyer Street during this time.** Visit [RIPTA.com/PVDFest](https://www.ripta.com/PVDFest) for details.

[North Providence Village Festival: Friday, September 13 – Sunday, September 15](#)

Routes 27 and 57 will be on detour from Friday, September 13 at noon through Sunday, September 15 at 11pm.

Hispanic Festival: September 21

Route 17 will be on detour from 3pm to 10pm.

Visit [RIPTA.com/alerts](https://www.ripta.com/alerts) for details on upcoming detours.