



Chip, the RIFC mascot, holds a RIPTA bus stop sign.

## Hop Aboard the Gameday Bus to Centreville Bank Stadium!

RIPTA has teamed up with the Rhode Island FC soccer club to launch Route R-1636, a free, fast, and frequent bus looping fans between key locations in Pawtucket and Centreville Bank Stadium every 8–10 minutes on game days. This special service begins three hours before kickoff and continues one hour after postgame events, making it the easiest way to catch all the action—without the hassle of traffic or parking. Just look for the R-1636 bus and hop on from one of several convenient stops listed on the map, including the Pawtucket-Central Falls Transit Center, Reserved Lot M7, and Ivan Perez Memorial Park.

Get the route map and full details at [RIPTA.com/RIFC](https://ripta.com/RIFC)

Game info and parking maps at [RhodeIslandFC.com](https://RhodeIslandFC.com)

Let us drive while you cheer. Go, RIFC!

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The "No Pollute Commute" logo.

## Rethink your ride during National Bike Month

May marks National Bike Month, a celebration championed by the League of American Bicyclists and embraced by communities nationwide. Since its inception in 1956, this month offers a platform to highlight the myriad advantages of cycling, aiming to inspire newcomers to take up biking.

As part of this annual celebration, RIPTA's Commuter Resource RI team is challenging you to participate in the **No Pollute Commute Bike to Work Challenge!**

It's free and easy to participate! Visit [drivelessri.com](http://drivelessri.com) to create an account and start logging your bike trips. The more you bike to work, the more chances you have to win prizes. You don't have to bike all the way every day; just one bike trip to your local bus or train stop during the challenge counts!

By logging your green trips, you'll also be able to track money saved from not buying gas, reduced CO2 emissions, gallons of gas saved, reduced miles driven by car and calories burned!

The No Pollute Commute Bike to Work Challenge is a fun and engaging way to try the healthy option of pedal power for part or all of your commute. Choosing to ride a bicycle to work offers many benefits including saving money, boosting morale and health, reducing traffic congestion, and reducing harmful automobile emissions. Don't forget – you can ride your bike part of the way to work and then let RIPTA get you the rest of the way there! RIPTA's fixed-route buses are equipped with a bicycle rack that can fit two bicycles each.

Visit [RIPTA.com/BikeToWork](http://RIPTA.com/BikeToWork) for details. Need help planning your two-wheeled commute? Email [commuter@RIPTA.com](mailto:commuter@RIPTA.com) today!

### **Bike to Work**

*National Bike to Work Day is an annual event across the United States and Canada that promotes the bicycle as an option for commuting to work. Leading up to Bike to Work Day, national, regional, and local bicycle advocacy groups encourage people to try bicycle commuting as a healthy and safe alternative to driving by providing route information and tips for new bicycle commuters.*

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Image of RIPTA Employee, William Vele

## Employee Spotlight: William Velez, Utility

If you've spent time around RIPTA's busiest transit hubs, there's a good chance you've seen William Velez hard at work—though you might not realize just how many places he covers in a day.

William is part of the Utility team and has been with RIPTA for nearly four years. His role takes him all over the state—Broad Street, the Downtown Transit Connector (DTC), Kennedy Plaza, West Exchange Street, the Pawtucket-Central Falls Transit Center—checking and cleaning public restrooms, restocking supply rooms, and keeping everything running smoothly. “I’m not just in one spot. I’m out and about all morning,” he says. “Then in the afternoons, I’m inside cleaning offices and the mechanical areas.”

William has brought not only energy to the job, but efficiency too. “I actually changed the way some of the work gets done and it helps me get the job done better and faster,” he explains. “Now I use a van that’s fully stocked with everything I need, so I can get through all the stockrooms without having to make extra trips.” Before joining RIPTA, William worked as an appliance installer. It was a family connection, his father-in-law, that led him to apply here. “He

works in the unit room,” William says with a smile. “He told me about the job, and I’m glad he did.”

Originally born and raised in New Jersey, William moved to Puerto Rico at the age of 11 and spent 20 years there before moving back to the US and settling in Rhode Island. He now lives in Rumford with his wife and their two youngest children. His oldest daughter, who is 15, lives in Puerto Rico. “When I’m not working, I like going to the gym and spending time with my kids,” he says. “My youngest is one, so that keeps me busy.”

This summer, William has something extra special to look forward to—his first trip to Florida. “We’re going in July, the whole family,” he says. “The kids are excited for the rides, especially the Tron ride and the Harry Potter castle. I’ve never been, so I’m just as excited as they are.”

With his hands-on approach and willingness to go the extra mile, William has become a reliable presence that RIPTA can count on day after day.

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Students from Johnson and Wales University holding RIPTA branded laundry bags.

## Building Connections: Outreach Recap

This past April, RIPTA's outreach team hit the ground running—connecting with community partners, students, and families across the state to promote accessible, sustainable transportation options for all Rhode Islanders.

- **Partnering for Progress RIPTA** | RIPTA Community Outreach Officer Jim

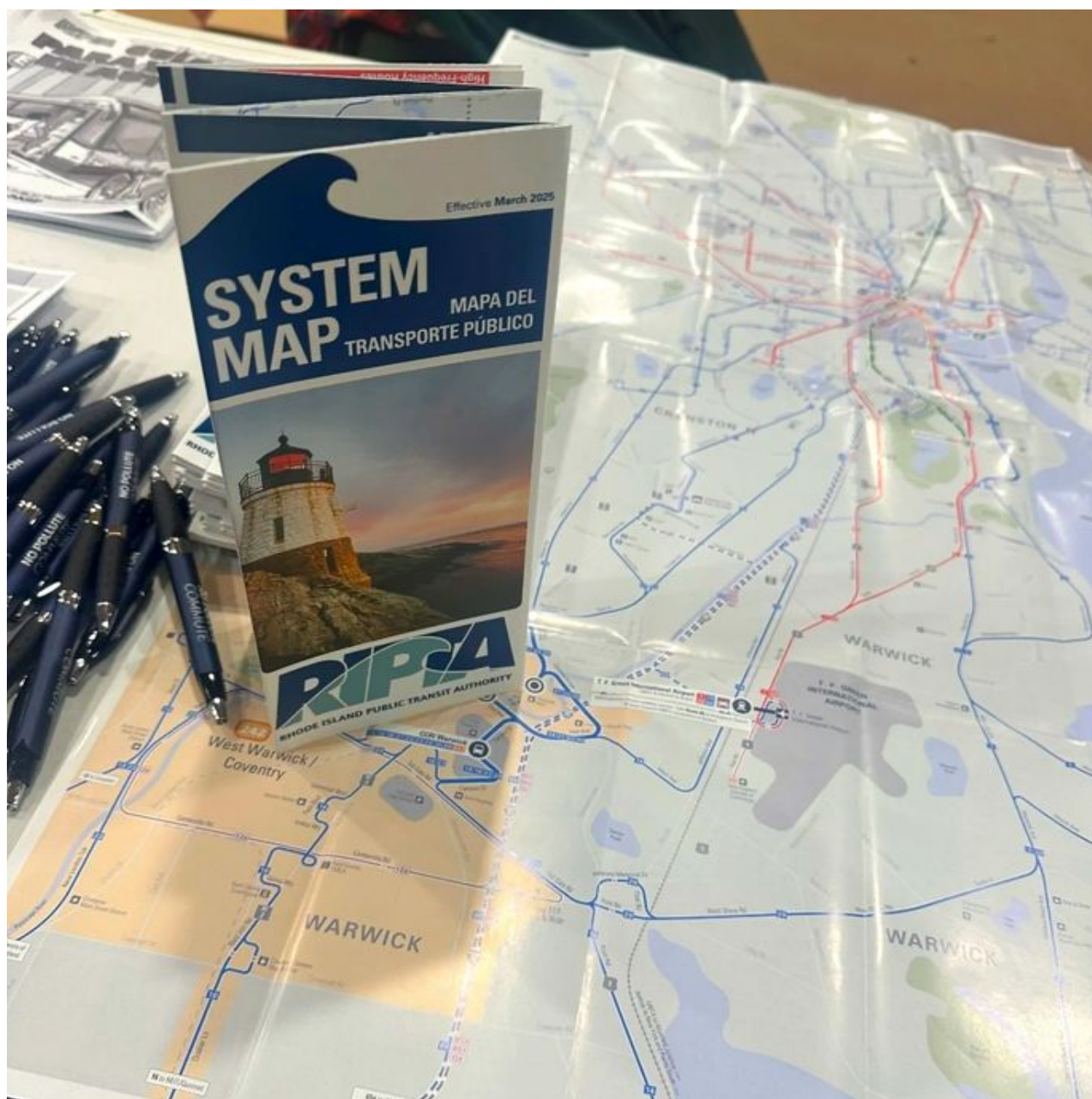
Vincent joined Lisa Ranglin, President & CEO of RIBBA, to celebrate the organization's 15th anniversary. The event highlighted RIBBA's continued impact through its educational and career development programs. Jim shared how RIPTA's [Wave to Work](#) commuter benefits program can support RIBBA members in getting to work more affordably and sustainably.

- **Supporting Summer Fun in Providence** | RIPTA is proud to support [Eat Play Learn](#), the City of Providence's summer initiative that provides free meals, recreational activities for kids, and job opportunities for teens. Our team was on hand to show families just how easy it is to use RIPTA to access the benefits provided by this program.
- **Welcoming Students at URI** | At the University of Rhode Island's *Welcome Day 2025*, incoming students discovered what life on campus has to offer—and how RIPTA can help them get around South County with ease. From campus events to beach trips, students were excited to learn how public transit fits into their new routines.
- **Promoting Sustainability at JWU** | RIPTA also took part in Johnson & Wales University's *Sustainability & Wellness Fair*, hosted at their renowned Culinary Arts Museum. We connected with students, faculty, and staff to highlight how using RIPTA supports wellness goals and sustainability—by cutting down on single-occupancy car trips and keeping the community moving.

**From celebrating milestones to supporting students and summer programs, RIPTA remains committed to building community through accessible transit.**

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A RIPTA system map pamphlet.

## 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 provide travel training.

Reduced Fare Photo ID Wave cards cost \$10 and are valid for two years. Replacement cards are \$20.00 [Click here](#) to view upcoming RIPTA Photo ID Road Trips.



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

**SOUTH KINGSTOWN**

Thursday, May 8 • 10am-12pm | South Kingstown Senior Center | 25 St. Dominic Road

**WEST WARWICK/COVENTRY RESOURCE FAIR**

Monday, May 12 • 1pm-6pm | West Warwick Senior and Community Center | 145 Washington Street

**PROVIDENCE**

Thursday, May 15 • 12pm-2pm | St. Elizabeth House | 700 Westminster Street

**EAST PROVIDENCE**

Thursday, May 22 • 10am-12pm | East Providence Senior Center | 610 Waterman Avenue

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

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Rider Alert Graphic.

## SERVICE ALERTS

### Holiday Service

Memorial Day (Monday, May 26) RIPTA will operate all regular fixed-route bus service on a Sunday/Holiday schedule on Monday, May 26 in observance of Memorial Day. All RIPTA offices will be closed on Memorial Day, except for the Customer Service Kiosk in the Newport Transportation Center. Click [here](#) for details.

## Detours

### **Brown University Commencement Weekend, Saturday, May 24 – Sunday, May 25**

On Saturday, Routes 1, 33 34, 35, 60 and 78 will be on detour from 9:30am to 8:00pm. On Sunday, Routes 1, 33 34, 35, 60 and 78 will be on detour from 6am to 6pm. The East Side Tunnel will be closed during this time.

**Gaspee Days Celebration – Saturday, May 24 – Monday, May 26** Route 4 will be detoured beginning Saturday, May 24 through Monday, May 26, 2025.

**North Providence Memorial Day Parade – Monday, May 26** Route 50 will be detoured from 11am to 3pm to accommodate the North Providence Memorial Day Parade.

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

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