

From: [Aggie Savage](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]The Bus Routes Are Essential
Date: Monday, August 4, 2025 1:48:36 AM

To whom it may concern,

I would like to request that bus services not be a victim of budget cuts. Many of our students need the buses in order to attend classes. This might seem like a small problem when placed against the interest of an entire state, but Rhode Island has a long history of prioritizing academic endeavors. It would be a shame to tarnish that history.

Also, considering a not-insignificant portion of the state's economy is tied to students and academic institutions, it seems unwise to make decisions that might negatively impact the ability to be a student.

Thank you for your time.

Aggie Savage

[Aggie Savage \(she/her\)](#)
[Instructor, The University of Rhode Island](#)
[Managing Editor, *Ocean State Review*](#)
[Assistant Managing Editor, Barrow Street Press](#)

From: [Amber Ma](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Budget cuts comments
Date: Sunday, August 3, 2025 4:55:02 PM

Hello,

I writing to express my serious concern about the proposed budget cuts and service reductions for the upcoming fiscal year. As a regular rider, I am deeply worried about how these changes will affect my ability to get around and get to essential appointments.

The proposed eliminations and frequency reductions on key routes will have a direct and negative impact on my life and the lives of many other riders who rely on RIPTA. For many of us, public transit is not a luxury, but a necessity. The proposed cuts will make it significantly harder, if not impossible, for many to travel, and I believe they will negatively affect the broader community and local economy.

I urge our leaders and key stakeholders to reconsider these drastic cuts and explore alternative solutions to address the budget deficit. Finding a sustainable way to fund and maintain a robust public transportation system is vital for our state's residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,
Amber Ma
Providence, RI

From: [Amir E. Aharoni](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Cc: info@johnforward1.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL]preserve route 92
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 9:48:39 AM

Hi!

I've just found out from councilman John Goncalves that RIPTA's route 92 is about to be split, and its service on weekends will be completely canceled.

This will be quite unfortunate for me. I live near the Eastside Market end of this route, and there is a stop very close to home. Every Saturday, and sometimes on other days of the week, I play music with my friends on Federal Hill. I take route 92 from my home to Federal Hill and back. It is safe, direct, and convenient. It is especially helpful for me in snowy winter days, when driving is harder and less safe.

I also use 92 on the weekends for shopping in Trader Joe's and for dining and other fun activities with my family in the excellent Downtown and Federal Hill businesses, such as Sarto, Free Play Arcade, Providence Children's Museum, Somo Kitchen and Sushi, Sicilia's Pizzeria, and others.

If 92 in its current form is canceled, I'll have to take two buses, which will require walking a lot with a heavy digital piano or grocery bags. Or I'll have to drive, which is less safe and less environmentally friendly, and I will also have to look for parking in the Downtown or Federal Hill, which is... not fun.

I hope that RIPTA can find a way to protect Route 92 and preserve full service to the East Side and Fox Point.

Thank you!

--

אמיר אלישע אהרונים · Amir Elisha Aharoni

[REDACTED]

"We're living in pieces,
I want to live in peace." – T. Moore

From: [Anne Huntington](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Ripta 9x
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 10:11:14 AM

Sent from my iPhone

Ripta bus 9X is the only bus that goes to Chepachet RI. If you eliminate that route you are cutting off the only public transportation connecting Chepachet to Providence. Please don't eliminate Route 9x. I need it.

From: [Belinda Johnson](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Please protect Route 92
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 12:04:04 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am sympathetic to the challenge RIPTA faces in managing significant budget cuts. Nevertheless, I ask that you **not** do this by splitting and weakening **Route 92**, thus seriously impacting our most vulnerable citizens.

Thank you,
Belinda Johnson



Providence RI 02906

protect Route 92 and preserve full service to the East Side and Fox Point. These cuts disproportionately impact low-income seniors.

From: [Brandon Marshall](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Letter Opposing RIPTA Cuts
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 3:06:10 PM
Attachments: [Letter Opposing RIPTA Cuts.pdf](#)

Hello,

Please find appended to this email a public letter drafted and signed by colleagues at the Brown University School of Public Health. If helpful, I am happy to forward this along to other RIPTA officials and state policymakers.

Warmly,
Brandon

August 5th, 2025

Christopher Durand
Chief Executive Office
Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA)

Dear Mr. Durand,

We, the undersigned, write to express our concern over proposed cuts to RIPTA services for the 2025-2026 budget year. Since the state legislature failed to provide requisite funds for RIPTA, the agency now faces a \$17.6 million budget shortfall and as a result, is considering massive cuts to services. Some of these routes will be eliminated, some will be shortened, and others will see reduced frequencies. Most routes in the RIPTA network are impacted in some way.

As public health researchers in Rhode Island, we know that many of the participants in our studies rely on public transportation to get to work, get groceries, access healthcare and indeed, and to get to study visits. Bus service is already not sufficient to meet the needs of people; some routes do not run that frequently. With further cuts, the consequences of missing a bus will be more severe; more missed appointments, missed days at work, school, etc. The people who use the bus include those on limited incomes, the elderly, the disabled – they all rely on these services that cannot be easily replaced. Taking an Uber is not a feasible, sustainable or accessible option.

These disruptions should not be taken lightly, especially when it comes to health care. There are people who take multiple bus routes for instance to get their daily treatment regimen for opioid use disorder. If a bus route is eliminated or service is reduced, this makes it more difficult for those people to get their care and puts them at risk to discontinue treatment. At the very least, studies have shown that cuts to bus service have led to decline in the mental health and wellbeing of impacted people as it impacts their ability to be social and meet with loved ones, in addition to accessing necessary services.

We urge RIPTA to reconsider making such drastic cuts and urge the state legislature to appropriate the necessary funds such that these cuts can be avoided.

Sincerely,

Brandon DL Marshall, PhD
Professor, Department of Epidemiology

Suzanne Colby, PhD
Professor, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Jennifer Tidey, PhD
Professor, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Rachel N. Cassidy, PhD
Associate Professor, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Hayley Treloar Padovano, PhD
Associate Director of Inclusive Excellence, Center for Alcohol & Addiction Studies

David G. Zelaya, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Aditya Khanna
Associate Professor of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Elizabeth R. Aston, PhD
Associate Professor of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Christopher W. Kahler, PhD
Professor, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Peter M. Monti, PhD
Professor, Dept of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Matthew K. Meisel, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Jennifer E. Merrill
Professor, Dept of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Cara Murphy, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Nancy P. Barnett, PhD
Professor, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Alexandria Macmadu, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology

From: [Brandon Sev](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Stop RIPTA Cuts!!
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 9:46:08 AM

Good morning,

I am reaching out to share my staunch opposition to the proposed RIPTA cuts. I previously attended the University of Rhode Island where I was enrolled in their Biotechnology program. The first year of classes required me to commute from the Kingston campus to the Feinstein campus in Providence every day. As a college student who couldn't afford to routinely pay for the gas required to make that commute for a whole school year, I relied on RIPTA's Route 66 bus to get me to where I needed to be, and was ultimately a much more cost effective option for me rather than driving. After the first week or so of classes, I noticed that more and more of my classmates were doing the same. It was just more efficient, and as a result, removed about a dozen individual commuters from the roadways, helping to ease the strain on our roadways, even if just a little bit.

I implore the governor to take another look at alternative means of funding to either eliminate the proposed service cuts entirely, or to minimize the proposed cuts to the best extent possible. Public transit is a cornerstone of connecting communities, servicing the disabled and elderly, as well as the less fortunate, not to mention the known positive environmental impacts. I cannot in good faith vote for Dan McKee in the future should these cuts be allowed to go through, and am willing to convince anyone I can to do the same.

Thanks for your time, and for your efforts in trying to combat these terrible cuts.

Best,

Brandon

From: [Brooke Kaufman](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Changes to the #92 bus route
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 9:48:14 AM

To: RIPTA,

I am a resident of Providence on the East Side. I have heard that there's plan to make major changes to the #92 bus route which many elderly and low income residents of Fox Point use for access to vital services like physician visits and grocery shopping. Buses on the new route running only once an hour and not at all on weekends will be inconvenient at best for those residents who depend on it and possibly even cause serious problems for them.

I hope you will reconsider this change and allow the present bus service to continue. Our elderly, low income and long time residents deserve to continue to have good and affordable public transportation.

Respectfully,
Brooke Kaufman

From: [Daria Phoebe Brashear](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]My statement during the Providence daytime hearing
Date: Monday, August 4, 2025 12:46:47 PM

My name is Daria Phoebe Brashear. I live in Edgewood.

On the day the board met to discuss the cuts I joined via video from 800 miles away. I was visiting a place that like this one is a top 40 but not top 30 US metro area. While I was there I used a bus system which added service recently, plans more and is looking at full 24 hour service. I used it free: it was an extreme heat action day that day.

Meanwhile, I am here in this room begging to not lose weekend service, worried about the already too short weekday span of service where I live, and none of the people who need to be hearing it, none of the ones who control the purse strings are here listening.

While our neighbors in Massachusetts and Connecticut both fully fund transit, we buy fancy signs by our airport and try vainly to woo new basketball teams, while our large employers leave because they want transit and we offer cheap downtown land instead.

I would like to live in a place which does not position itself as a bedroom community for our larger neighbor. We are past due to fund and operate infrastructure which indicates we are serious about being a growing city. These Service cuts, if allowed to go forward, will instead demonstrate that we are not. Leadership which does not act is leadership in name only.

--

Daria Phoebe Brashear



From: [David Wells](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Protect Route 92
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 2:08:58 PM

Hello!

I am resident of Fox Point and use the 92 bus regularly to go to DownCity and to the West Side/Federal Hill. I am one of many seniors in Fox Point who rely on Route 92. Don't let the proposed cuts happen to this vital line!

Thanks for your attention!

David Helfer Wells

Narrative Visuals

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Derek Torrey](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Routes 3 & 4 Comments
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 9:14:42 AM

Good morning,

I wanted to provide a comment on the proposed service reductions to Routes 3 and 4.

I understand the budget gap you are trying to fill and that reductions are necessary to close that gap. Eliminating Sunday Route 3 service is understandable because I'm sure the ridership is very low that day. I can also follow the logic for eliminating Route 4 weekend service.

However, I ask that you consider not doing frequency reductions on Routes 3 and 4 during the week--or at least during the morning and evening commuting times during the week. I live in Edgewood and take the 3 or 4 to and from my office in downtown Providence about 3 times a week. My husband and I only have one car, so the bus allows me to get to work without needing to get a second vehicle. If you reduce the frequencies in the morning and evening commuting times, it will be more difficult for me to plan the day and get to and from work and home in a reasonable amount of time, so I'd have to consider buying another car instead. And I'd rather keep taking the bus!

Thank you for considering my comment. I know you have a hard task ahead of you, and I appreciate everything RIPTA is doing to close the budget gap.

Many thanks,

Derek Torrey
Edgewood, RI

From: [Elise Schuster](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Route 92
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 12:43:29 PM

Hi,

I am a Fox Point resident without a car who frequently uses route 92 to get downtown. The only thing that prevents me from using it more is that it already runs so infrequently.

I just learned about the proposed cuts to service and as a user of 92, I am writing to implore you not to weaken this already hampered line.

Studies show that the key to increasing public transit usage is to actually INCREASE the frequency of service, not decrease. More convenience=more usage.

I know funding is an issue but the community will happily fight for additional money. Please do not leave those of us who need public transit behind.

Sincerely,
Elise

Elise Schuster


From: [Jane Arnold](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]All RIPTA cuts
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 11:40:08 AM

This isn't about any particular line, it's about having decent public transportation in Rhode Island's largest, and capitol, city.

I'm 75; I've been using public transit since I was in high school and took a bus to a volunteer job two towns away. I've lived in 8 different states and 14 different communities, and every time there was public transportation, I used it to get to work, to college classes, to graduate classes, to entertainment.

I HATE driving. I'd much rather take public transit. But what you're slowly strangling the system. The more you cut, the less people take buses because they can't rely on them, so you have excuses to cut more. The #1 bus runs so seldom now that I often don't take it (and it doesn't run to schedule). We can't take it to go downtown to go to shows at night, because it doesn't run late, so we have to drive. And park. And pay for parking. And walk.

I'd rather take a bus.

Other cities manage to maintain--and improve--transportation. When I lived in Arlington, VA, I commuted to my job in DC on a bus. DC now has a subway system, in addition to buses. When I lived in Jerusalem, buses were so cheap and so frequent that I'd just jump on any bus going in my direction, and jump off if it turned off before my destination, and got another. Jerusalem now has a subway system in addition to buses.

We're not asking for a subway, just an efficient, convenient, properly run bus system. Providence won't be a world-class city without one. And if we have one, more people might use the buses.

Jane Arnold



From: [Jesse G.](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public hearing- Ripta bus 69
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 11:10:38 AM

Hello,

My name is Jesse and I take Ripta bus 66 & 69 to get to work down in Galilee. I live in Warwick but work in Narragansett at the block island ferry. I cannot drive and I rely heavily on both buses to and from work. I've taken those 2 buses for 4 years now, so the notion of bus 69 being removed entirely is terrifying for me. I cannot head to work any other way besides the bus, if I were to uber it be at least \$30 each day which would be \$150 each week. I cannot afford that, so I beg and plead if there is another option. So many people are relying on that bus route to and from. I use it for the 7:10am bus to galilee & the 4:22 bus returning. If you have to decrease the times or even upcharge the fare rate to even \$4, I will appreciate it and pay it. Just please do not eliminate the route entirely, I have no other means of transportation to and from work. I want to continue to use ripta than other expensive methods, it isn't just me who reply on bus 69, I know a handful of people who use it everyday. You would be uprooting so many peoples lives if you got rid of it, so I implore you please consider other options than elimination.

Thank you and I hope you consider other alternatives

Sincerely,
Jesse G.

From: [Joan Ritchie](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Re: RIPTA's plans
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 3:24:37 PM

As a long time business owner in FOX point and friend to many elderly in the area who depend on your services I urge you not to cut route 92.

Thank you,
Joan Ritchie

From: [Kaitlyn Amaral](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Protect RIPTA Funding!
Date: Sunday, August 3, 2025 6:33:44 PM

Hello,

I am a lifelong Rhode Island resident, currently living in West Warwick and we should not be making any cuts to RIPTA funding. An accessible and healthy future requires expanding upon and improving our public transportation, not cutting it. All RIPTA routes must be fully funded because Rhode Island residents deserve quality and consistent public transportation.

Thank you,
Kaitlyn Amaral
West Warwick, RI
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kate](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Cc: [Seth Golbitz](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Routes 66, 69 and 14
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 1:17:13 PM

Hello,

Please reconsider changes to bus routes 66, 69 and 14. My son will be using these buses daily to attend the new satellite Met High School in Wakefield. In addition to my son being able to access the public charter high school that he has been accepted to, these routes directly impact students attending URI and CCRI too.

Please make adjustments to these drastic cuts, reestablish routes 66, 69 and 14 as to allow students to access their education.

Thank you,

Kate Golbitz

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

From: [Kiersten Prucha](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Concern about RIPTA cuts
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 11:38:07 AM

Dear RIPTA,

I am incredibly concerned about the proposal to cut so many of the RIPTA routes. My elderly neighbor does not own a car and she relies on RIPTA daily to do her shopping and get to medical appointments. I am also concerned about how much this will impact Providence high school students that rely on RIPTA to get to and from school.

Please reconsider these cuts. Many Rhode Islanders depend on these critical bus routes and this is a time we should be investing more in public transit rather than cutting back.

Thank you,
Kiersten Prucha

53 Quincy St
Providence, RI

From: [REDACTED]
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public Comment on Proposed Route 4 Service Cuts
Date: Monday, August 4, 2025 7:42:25 AM

I'm writing to express my deep disappointment and frustration regarding the proposed cuts to Route 4, particularly the drastic reduction of weekday service and the complete elimination of weekend service. These changes are not just inconvenient, they are harmful and short-sighted, especially for those of us who rely on public transportation as a lifeline.

Route 4 is already limited, and making weekday service even more restrictive will have a severe impact on working people who depend on this route to get to and from their jobs. I, like many others, rely on this service to commute to work in order to survive in a state where wages have failed to keep up with the skyrocketing cost of living. Rent prices are outrageous, groceries are higher than ever, and taxes in Rhode Island are burdensome. The last thing we need is to lose access to one of the few affordable resources we still have.

It's incredibly disheartening that in a state that barely pays its workers a livable wage, RIPTA would even consider stripping away services that make it possible for low- and moderate-income residents to work, contribute, and live with dignity. While it's true that Route 4 passes through areas perceived as higher income, not everyone who lives along this route is wealthy, including myself. I already commute to Boston to find pay that reflects my experience and value, because Rhode Island refuses to pay its residents accordingly. Cutting this service just makes that struggle even harder.

Eliminating weekend service is particularly cruel. It isolates people who work weekends, those who visit family, run errands, or attend religious and community events. Are we just supposed to rely on Uber or Lyft, which can cost more than an entire day's wages for some? This proposal feels like yet another example of Rhode Island prioritizing wealthy individuals and corporations while pushing the rest of us further into the margins.

Public transportation is supposed to be for the public, not a luxury for when it's convenient or cost-effective for the state. If RIPTA wants to address a budget deficit, start by advocating for more equitable state funding instead of punishing the people who rely on you most.

Rhode Island needs to do better. Stop tossing its residents to the side like we're disposable. We deserve transportation we can rely on, not another reminder that the system only works for the privileged.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Laura G.](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Save Route 92!
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 9:18:38 AM

Dear RIPTA Managers and State Budget Officials,

Please don't cut bus service to our Fox Point neighborhood! Please find a way to support bus transportation and keep this whole route running daily!

We have owned a small home in Fox Point for over 25 years, right on the 92 bus route, and the bus is a lifeline for us in so many ways. Our family uses it to get downtown to the library, to travel to work sites on weekdays and weekends, to attend cultural events, to shop, and to get to a part-time job at Rhode Island College. I do drive and I own a car, but I'm older and have had some injuries impairing driving, and I've relied on the bus during these times. My children are young adults with health issues who are both unable to drive, so they rely on the bus for job and school. Our son has learned independence and confidence by practicing the bus by himself. Also, as a family, we try to minimize driving--we walk, bike and take the bus whenever we can. We understand the impact cars and traffic congestion have on the climate of our city.

The proposed cuts to this route, splitting it and cutting weekend service, would affect our whole family directly.

Besides our family, we see so many of our neighbors of all ages relying on the bus each day. Some use it to get to work in the hospitals, some travel to school or downtown. Some are elderly, live alone, and use the bus as their only way to get around. The bus provides independence and dignity to the older residents of Fox Point and it's unfair to take it away.

Adequate public transportation in this lively, engaging, densely populated urban neighborhood is one of the most basic services we rely on. Reliable bus service stabilizes the area, keeps us safe, and creates quality of life for all of us. Please allow us to keep meeting our basic transportation needs in this neighborhood! We Fox Point residents need the full 92 route that travels across the city, and we need bus service we can rely on 7 days a week, not just on weekdays.

Thank you for your attention, and for accepting public comments.

Sincerely,

Laura Gulley

[REDACTED]

Providence, RI 02906

From: [Laura Perez](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]No Cuts to Bus Line
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 9:31:08 AM

Hello,

I am here to ask you to not cut the bus routes you are proposing to. The people of Providence need this routes and you are doing the citizens of this state a disservice by even considering this.

From: [Leela Corman](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Protect the 92 route!
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 9:34:04 AM

Dear RIPTA - I'm writing to tell you that the 92 bus route must be preserved as is. It's a lifeline for people in all of the neighborhoods it serves: Fox Point, the East Side, Mt. Pleasant, and more. It is the only way that many can access groceries, medical appointments, jobs, and family. It's already difficult enough to get around Providence on public transit, and the 92 is one of the best routes we have. Please preserve full service.

Best,
Leela Corman



From: [Leo Zucker](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Protect RIPTA from drastic service cuts
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 10:39:38 AM

To whom it may concern,

I write to protest the drastic service cuts that RIPTA plans to implement in response to the appalling budget deficit our elected officials have imposed on the authority.

These cuts will dramatically upend Rhode Islanders' lives, with the brunt being borne by our most vulnerable neighbors. This observation is nowhere clearer than in Fox Point, where I resided until recently, and where many low-income senior citizens rely on the Route 92 bus to access groceries, medical appointments, and vital services. Our elders' lives will be made significantly harder if Route 92 is materially replaced by a Route 91 with low frequency on weekdays and no service on weekends. If our leaders can't find the courage and means to protect these most vulnerable Rhode Islanders, who can they be trusted to stand up for?

But public transit is so much more than a welfare program; it's a conduit for the growth and dynamism of our economy and cultural scene. Lord knows Rhode Island underperforms its potential on both fronts; we're at once dazzled by Massachusetts' effervescence and stuck in its shadow. If we want our state to contend with Massachusetts in terms of prosperity, innovation, and artistic output, we need ambitions for our public transit authority that match those of the MBTA. Clearly ambition isn't on the menu offered by our leadership.

I sincerely hope you share my desires for RIPTA and will do all you can to protect its services from proposed drastic cuts.

Kind regards,

Leo Zucker

From: [Lola Rael](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Comment on Proposed Service Cuts
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 1:18:28 PM

Dear RIPTA Board,

My name is Lola Rael, and I'm a resident of Cranston. I'm writing to voice my concern about the proposed service cuts. I've been a frequent RIPTA rider since I was old enough to take the bus independently. At many points in my life, RIPTA has been an invaluable resource to me and my primary transportation around Providence and the surrounding area. I've commuted to work daily for years using the 1, 3, 4, and R lines, but I rely on the full bus network regularly.

The proposed service cuts, mainly the reduced frequency and the elimination of some weekend service, would make it significantly harder for me to get to work, especially since I work every Saturday and Sunday in addition to weekdays. More generally, these changes would make it much more difficult to live a car-free lifestyle in the Providence metro area. For me, this is a choice rooted in values. But for many Rhode Islanders, especially low-income individuals, seniors, and people with disabilities, public transit is the only option.

While these changes will inconvenience me personally, I'm more concerned about their bigger social consequences. Reliable public transit improves social equity, economic opportunity, and quality of life. Service cuts will further isolate people who already face barriers, deepen the divide between those who can afford to drive and those who cannot, and increase reliance on cars, which contribute to traffic, environmental harm, and DUI incidents.

Please reconsider these cuts and prioritize long-term solutions that strengthen, rather than weaken, transit access in Rhode Island.

Sincerely,
Lola Rael
Cranston, RI

From: [Luz Santiago](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Route 34 East Providence
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 3:08:56 PM

I hope this message finds you well.

I am writing to express the urgent importance of keeping the route 34 especially considering the current situation with the Washington Bridge being out of service.

This route is vital for our community, not only for daily access and mobility, but also because it is used to transport employees from a local senior care center who depend on it to reach their workplace on time and safely.

We kindly ask that this matter be prioritized as it directly impacts the well-being of both workers and the elderly residents they serve.

Thank you for your attention and support

From: [Lynn Holstein](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Reconsider your cuts
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 10:50:07 AM

I write to ask that you do not cut Route 92 service and that you keep busses in Fox Point and other parts of Providence.

Sincerely
Lynn Holstein
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Madeleine Esch](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Proposed cuts: Save the 92
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 12:03:32 PM

Dear administrators,

I am so heartbroken to read of the proposed cuts to RIPTA service. Although I am not a daily rider, reliable RIPTA service has proven invaluable to me on so many occasions and I know many in my communities who depend upon it. While I understand that some reductions are necessary given current budget conditions, I write to urge you to preserve Route 92 on its current route and schedule, if at all possible. This single cross-town trip is preferable to splitting the route and weekend service is a godsend.

I am not opposed to a fare increase to support vital RIPTA services, especially if discounted fares continue to be available for those who most need affordable public transit.

Sincerely,
Madeleine Esch



Providence, RI
Served well by routes 57, 92 and 55

From: [Madeleine Kemo](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED ROUTE CUTS
Date: Sunday, August 3, 2025 4:46:01 PM

Dear RIPTA marketing team and board members,

My name is Madeleine Kemo and I have lived in Rhode Island since the summer of 2022. I am planning on starting my Masters degree in the fall at URI. Just last week before the announcement of the cuts to major RIPTA bus routes I signed a lease locking me into an agreement to reside in Newport from September to May 2026. If the 64 bus line is cut I will have no choice but to defer as I have no car and no other way to travel to campus. I not only suspect but know from attending just one public hearing in Kingston that many students will in the state will be similarly impacted.

Rhode Island is a largely rural state. Families, elder folks, people with disabilities, students, and many others not only prefer to take the bus for environmental reasons or convenience - but for most of those folks they don't have another option. Some areas of higher income may be more urban and walkable such as Newport and Providence. But there are still many many people living in those areas rely on public transportation for doctors appoints, job interviews, childcare, and other life saving services. I fell in love with Rhode Island for the sense of community I felt throughout the state. I felt that it was a state that cared for the people. I worked in substance use for 2 years and the state was making leading strides in many life saving programs. Working in that field in Rhode Island taught me so much compassion and gave me so much hope for our futures. But this decision to cut public transportation will have life altering impacts. I urge you to consider alternative solutions to making this cuts. I urge you to listen to the people who rely on you.

Thank you

Madeleine Kemo



From: [Mary Mock](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]RIPTA Service Cuts
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 3:54:30 PM

I'm reaching out to request RIPTA find the budget to avoid the upcoming service cuts. I recently moved to Providence from the south and I have been so impressed with the walking and transit infrastructure. I am a choice rider; I own a car, but I prefer to travel without a car if possible. I have been excited to travel more by bus, but the frequency of the vehicles already feels limited. I would be encouraged to use my car more if it would add significant time to my journey, which would add to traffic congestion, and negatively impact the level of safety I feel walking around my neighborhood. Please do not reduce service!

Thanks,
Mary Mock

From: [Melia Swenson](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Stop the Cuts to RIPTA routes
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 9:47:58 AM

I am a resident of North Kingstown, RI, and am writing today to demonstrate my frustration and concern over the proposed cuts to 57/68 RIPTA bus routes. Rhode Island already doesn't have enough public transportation, and these proposed cuts will damage senior citizens, low income families, and students' experiences as it will leave them without reliable transportation. I am urging you to reconsider these cuts.

From: [Peter Deffet](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]RIPTA budget shortfall changes
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 9:37:09 AM

Hello,

I write as a concerned voter, resident and rider of RIPTA. The news of drastic cuts not only to the frequency of service, but entire elimination of lines during what will only become an even darker economic time is distressing from a civil security point of view. These changes will take a toll on the state's most vulnerable population: the poor. At a time when we should be doubling down and expanding public transit, the legislature and RIPTA leadership are abdicating their responsibilities. They should be ashamed.

Sincerely,

Peter Deffet
Lifelong Rhode Islander.

From: [Quoc Le](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Request to Maintain Routes 66 and 69
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 11:13:50 AM

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Quoc Le, and I am a graduate student at the University of Rhode Island.

I am writing to express my hope that the public bus Routes 66 and 69 will continue to be maintained. Since my arrival at URI, these services have been essential for me. I use Route 66 to reach campus and government offices, and Route 69 to go to the market and bank. I believe many other students rely on these routes in the same way.

I understand that it may be challenging to continue operating these routes. Recently, I got an electric bike, which helps me travel to campus and the market more easily. However, it is still not suitable for accessing government services.

At first, I did not think I would write this email, as I can try my best to handle my personal needs. But during many of my bus rides, I have met individuals who are elderly or have disabilities. They cannot write or speak up for themselves. They rely on these bus services even more than I do.

I believe it is our shared responsibility to ensure they feel supported and included in the community. For their sake and that of many students like me, I kindly ask that you consider continuing Routes 66 and 69.

Thank you very much for your time and attention.
Wishing you all the best.

Sincerely,
Quoc Le

Graduate Student
University of Rhode Island

From: [Avi Goldstein](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public Comment
Date: Sunday, August 3, 2025 6:07:51 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed elimination of Route 69, the Flex on-demand service, and other major cuts to RIPTA's transportation system.

As a Rabbi, URI affiliate, and Chaplain and Advisor of the Chabad Student Club, I see firsthand how deeply these services impact students, international workers, seniors, vulnerable populations, and the broader community. URI already faces severe parking shortages, with students circling lots, missing class, and struggling to find options—especially those who live off campus, which includes many non-freshmen due to limited housing. RIPTA is not a luxury; it is vital.

The Flex on-demand service, in particular, is the kind of innovation we need more of—not less. Expanding, not eliminating, this model would be a step toward better accessibility and efficiency. It offers critical service to communities where fixed-route service isn't viable and helps fill serious transportation gaps.

While I'm not normally in favor of raising fares on the public, charging riders an extra 25¢, 50¢, or even 75¢ is far preferable to gutting the system altogether. Fares haven't gone up since 2010. Find me any other good or service that hasn't increased in 15 years. Even with an increase, RIPTA's fares would still be lower than many comparable systems across the country. RIPTA has and could have programs to subsidize fares for people who truly can't afford the bus, ensuring continued access for the most vulnerable.

The 2¢ increase in the gas tax that generated \$15 million shows the potential of even modest adjustments. A few more cents could preserve and strengthen the system—especially when compared with the devastation these cuts would cause. Rhode Island leaders say they care about climate change and reducing car use, but cutting public transit is the opposite of that. It is climate hypocrisy, plain and simple.

The state's vehicle inspection requirements are perhaps the most draconian in the country, making it often burdensome to keep a vehicle on the road, despite little to no data that safety is increased because of this. Now, they want to cut public transportation too!

We need real solutions, not short-sighted cuts. That includes:

A modest fare increase, with subsidies for those who need them

Another small increase in the gas tax

Progressive taxation of the wealthiest Rhode Islanders

Prioritizing essential services over government waste

Let's be honest: there's far more wasteful spending elsewhere in government. Why not redirect those funds to support a service that's essential to education, the local economy, mobility, equity, and the environment?

Cutting RIPTA now would be a long-term mistake. This proposal fails to meet the needs of the people who rely on transit every single day—and undermines our collective future.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Avi Goldstein
URI Affiliate, Chaplain & Advisor – Chabad Student Club
Kingston, RI

Rabbi Avi Goldstein
Chabad URI - Kingston



From: [Rachel Stevenson](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]RIPTA testimony
Date: Monday, August 4, 2025 9:24:03 AM

To those fighting to maintain our state's bussing, thank you!

I want to tell you two stories about how RIPTA changes our lives.

One of our friends was struggling with severe PTSD and depression in Massachusetts, to the point that they couldn't keep up with life. Their car broke down, and they got let go at work any and then evicted from their apartment. They had to quickly start over, moving to an even more remote part of Massachusetts to lean on extended family and just keep putting one foot in front of the other. The thing that kept them going was a vision of moving to Providence and connecting with the LGBTQ+ community, the arts, and the vibrancy of this city. They kept at it, knowing that they could be fulfilled and surrounded by love if they could afford to move here. This beautiful new life they've built over the last two years—helping people, making art, showing kindness and joy to all—will implode if they cannot take the bus to work, medical appointments, and social activities. Providence was a shining city on the hill to them, and that vibrant community that drew them in is SO reliant on RIPTA's current routes that it could become unrecognizable within a year. The city will become congested with traffic, more dominated by parking structures than attractions and businesses. It will become a monoculture where certain classes can visit or spend time, and they will quickly tire of it when the spark dies of the creative force and maintenance labor of the working class. People will be stranded in the city unable to pickup kids from school, they will spend all their time trying to get downtown and lose their jobs, employers will struggle to fill positions. And for my friend and others like them, they will not be able to afford to live here and contribute here within months.

The next one is a love story. My partner lived a 45 minute drive away as my health failed me, and she drove up every chance she could to help me with medical care and just get me out and about to maintain some small quality of life. One day her car broke down, and I was heartbroken that I would have to adjust to my diagnosis and dwindling physical ability as a shut-in, struggling to take care of even simple things. Instead, she took the bus. RIPTA delivered my loving partner twice a week so we could be together and "be there" for each other in ways we could not over the phone or video chat. I am crying as I write, because I don't know how I would have gotten through that time without her. We are so thankful for RIPTA, and we would be crushed to know the route she took would be closed down to everyone else who needs it.

Please fight for what's right and save our state from becoming fractured, beleaguered and stagnant due to lack of affordable transportation.

Thank you,
Rachel

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Rep. Boylan, Jennifer](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Comments on Proposed Statewide Service Cuts Due to Budget Deficit
Date: Sunday, August 3, 2025 6:29:52 PM

I write in strong opposition to RIPTA's proposed statewide service cuts due to the \$10M deficit. As a member of the Rhode Island House of Representatives, I have advocated with my colleagues to fully fund RIPTA each year. Unfortunately, that did not happen this year. These cuts and reductions of service will have a significant negative impact on my community, especially for those who rely on public transit for work, education, medical appointments, and daily necessities.

Reducing service will disproportionately affect low-income residents, seniors, students, and people with disabilities—many of whom have no alternative means of transportation. It will also worsen traffic congestion and undermine efforts to reduce carbon emissions and promote environmental sustainability. In order to meet our Act on Climate mandates, we must get more people out of cars and onto mass transit. We should be expanding access to RIPTA, yet instead we are rolling it back.

Public transportation is not a luxury; it is a vital public service. Rather than scaling back service, we should be investing in transit infrastructure, improving route frequency, and making transit more accessible and reliable for all Rhode Islanders.

I urge RIPTA to reconsider these reductions and instead seek efficiencies and solutions that protect and enhance our public transit system. The long-term health, equity, and economic vitality of our communities and all of Rhode Island depend on it.

Thank you.

Jennifer S. Boylan
State Representative for House District 66 Riverside/Barrington
Rep-Boylan@RILegislature.gov 401-222-1723
House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
House Committee on Health and Human Services Committee
House Committee on Oversight

From: [Riley Hinman](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Fund RIPTA, we depend on it
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 10:56:19 AM

For everyday working individuals like myself, I use the bus 5 days a week to get to work in the city. I once drove in myself, but with parking garages and lots that were overpriced or didn't open early enough and some of the worst city street parking I've seen in the country, I couldn't afford to spend a huge fraction of my minimum wage paycheck to cover parking costs and parking tickets. Did you know you cannot park on the same street for more than 2 hours in downtown, even if you pay the meter on time? In someone's deluded fantasy, as an employee in downtown who relies on street parking, you're expected to leave your job every two hours for 15 minutes, and move your car to a different street in a different parking spot. Even if you moved a few spots down the same street, you'll still get a ticket for it. With a place as small as Rhode Island, the infrastructure for cars as is is absolutely horrendous, some of the worst in the country in fact (including parking laws where majority of other cities aren't nearly as deluded) we can't afford to swallow up more space just to store cars.

That's when I started taking the bus. It was to the point where driving and parking in downtown was so bad, I considered just finding a new job just to save money and the constant stress of tickets and parking fees. But thanks to the buses, I didn't have to uproot my life just because the laws and build of the city made driving my car to and from work a nightmare. The buses were reliable, easy, and AFFORDABLE transportation to get to and from work. Cutting RIPTA routes not only screws over everyday working people like me, but our most vulnerable in the community that our government swore to protect, not line the interest of the top percent and corporations. Not to mention with nearly 30% of the population being considered impoverished, those who truly can't afford the cost of cars, you would ultimately be killing most of our life line to work, school, and grocery stores. What's the plan then? Leave the rest of us stranded to fend for ourselves? Walk hours to work and school with the worst drivers in the country threatening to strike us at any point with their reckless driving? What about the school children who's only way to and from school is the bus system? The rest of us get screwed over then?

Cutting RIPTA funding and routes is about the stupidest thing this city could do. You do not have the space or infrastructure to be a car centric city, and you're screwing everyone over just to pretend like you are. Those of us working, disabled, impoverished need more programs that work for us in our favor, not against. This is not in our best interest, and I'm not sure who it's meant to serve, but I imagine this will leave a sour taste for all of us in the voting booths.

Fund the buses. Work for us.

Riley Hinman

From: [Robert Callahan](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Route 92 review and reconsideration
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 12:00:12 PM

Route 92 serves many purposes for residents along its route. For a particular community of Fox Point seniors frequently using this line, there is no viable alternative transport available to them. They are using the line to get to doctors and to buy groceries, among other things. They cannot simply walk or call a taxi given their advanced ages and minimal budgets. For these people and other regular commuters, the 92 line is vital. For other people in the area, including people like me walking across the river on the footbridge to connect by short hops to shopping and cultural sites, the line presents a valuable convenience.

Reducing service and confusing the routing of the remaining service on route 92 seems like change that looks reasonable on paper that reveals itself to be disastrous once the actual people involved enter our considerations. If RIPTA hurts for funding to such an extent it cannot support the kind of baseline public-transit service route 92 and others like it provide, we need to rearrange our funding priorities. Perhaps RIPTA should petition the city and the state to spend less money installing intrusive (indeed, unconstitutional) and minimally helpful surveillance cameras all over Providence, and to cut the babysitting of private building-construction and utility-crew workers by uniformed city police (essentially the only time we see police in the flesh anymore - what, with all the cameras to monitor on expensive software on station-based computers - outside of riot-duty staffing for peaceful protests by groups not aligned with the far right). Maybe I am crazy, but providing public transport to the people who need it most seems to me to be a high priority for any city.

Please reconsider this needlessly harmful change to route 92 - and to comparable service lines around the city. We need better bus service, not less bus service.

No one objects to rationalizing the service map or to minding overall budgets. We cannot afford, however, to make single-service lines part-time services in communities with struggling residents who deserve better. The seniors alone make this line worth fighting for, but 92 serves multiple needs. The people are the bottom line for such a service. RIPTA exists to serve its community, not a corporate bottom line. All our decisions in local government turn on such considerations. This decision to cut service on route 92 needs rethinking, while the mistake can be corrected without injuring or inconveniencing anyone.

Thank you for your attention.

Very truly yours,

Robert CALLAHAN



Providence, RI 02903

From: [Hackey, Robert](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Cc: rep-tanzi@rilegislature.gov; towncouncil@southkingstownri.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Proposed RIPTA service changes
Date: Monday, August 4, 2025 9:02:18 AM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

Good morning!

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed service changes on the 69 and 65x routes serving South Kingstown. As a RIPTA rider for more than 30 years, I depend on accessible public transit to get to work and get around town. I have peripheral neuropathy and have not driven since 2016. Many of my fellow riders on the 65x choose RIPTA for cost and convenience, or for the environmental benefits of taking cars off the road to Providence. All are important reasons to support a strong, robust public bus service. My own situation, however, is more complicated.

I usually take the 65x from the 138/1 park and ride - my wife can drop me off on her way to work at a local elementary school. If this route is eliminated, I'd have to take the 66 from Kingston Station or URI to get to work in Providence. However, if the 69 route is eliminated as well, SK will have NO public transportation to get to the capital city. This is simply unacceptable... I've often taken the 69 from Main St in Wakefield to Kingston to pick up the 66, but if this is no longer an option, the only choice would be to Uber - and Uber is neither affordable nor readily available.

From a broader perspective, RIPTA's proposed cuts threaten the core of our statewide public transit system. We're not cutting fat here - these cuts affect muscles, ligaments and bone! Longer intervals between buses, the elimination of park and ride routes, and widespread uncertainty about the future will lead to a death spiral for public transit ridership in our state. I urge you to work with the governor's office, the RI Department of Transportation, and other agencies to identify alternative sources of revenue. These cuts are devastating, and once made, RIPTA will be a shell of itself. We can't let that happen - too many Rhode Islanders depend on affordable, quality public transit. RIPTA is efficient, but perennially underfunded. Let's stop the bleeding now!

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bob Hackey



Robert B. Hackey, PhD

Professor of Health Sciences

He | him | his

Phone 4 [REDACTED]

Office Mondor Hall 125

Address: 1 Cunningham Square, Providence, RI 02918-0001

From: [Roger Stafford](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Bus Route 14
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 11:32:10 AM

To whom it concerns,

I just recently started my job after a year of being unable to work. I was informed that the service to Newport from the Wickford train station may be cut. The last bus leaving Newport is at 4:15 now making it impossible to work a full day and because it is not in sync with the 66 the travel time can be 1.5 hours or more. Please look at keeping the service active or increased. By cutting trips you limit opportunity which I'm turning stops taxes from being generated or allowing people to access the beach areas by having to go all the way to Providence and Back to Newport which is a 2.5- 3 hours one way which is not viable as it is now. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Roger Stafford



From: [rosemary.colt](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Cuts
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 2:33:20 PM

Save the RIPTA bus routes! Don't disadvantage the hard working people of RI who are just trying to get to work and make ends meet.

Rosemary Paris Colt M.Ed

[REDACTED]

Cranston, RI 02905

[REDACTED]

From: [Sarah Philipp](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Support for RIPTA
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 12:08:33 PM

Hello,

I was unable to attend any of the public hearings but I wanted to voice my support for RIPTA. RIPTA is critical public transportation for many Rhode Islanders so they can get to work, school, and everyday appointments. We should be expanding RIPTA, not defunding it.

Thank you,

Sarah Philipp
Burrillville, RI

From: [Shaurya Joshi](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Concerning Service Elimination of 9x
Date: Sunday, August 3, 2025 2:29:03 PM

Hello,

I'm writing to express concern over the cancellation of the 9x route. Myself, along with others, rely on this route on a daily basis to get to and from work at the Citizens Bank Johnston Campus.

The 9x is the only public transit that goes to the campus. Not even all 9x routes go there, I believe only a specific one in the morning and two in the afternoon/evening return back to Providence.

I kindly ask that you consider maintaining the Citizens Bank campus specific routes, as there are only 2 or 3 buses, that specific route serves a critical need for employees.

Thank you,

Shaurya J

From: [Susan Boyer](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]RIPTA Changes
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 12:19:15 PM

To RIPTA –

Please re-consider your changes regarding the cut of the 9x Route that runs through Greenville almost into CT. This bus gets several people to their jobs in the city daily. If we must drive into the city, the cost of parking is expensive, we will be spending money on gas, putting excess wear and tear on our vehicles, and causing higher emissions. I would accept an increase in bus fare from \$2 to \$3 for a trip as, that is still only \$6 a day rather than \$15-\$25 a day to park. This bus also stops at the Stop and Shop in Greenville and commuters are picked up or dropped off for grocery shopping.

I truly hope you can find ways for **ALL** of these changes and cuts to be stopped. You truly do not understand the effect you are having on the lives of the everyday commuter. I can see businesses in Providence losing employees and patrons as, they can't get to their job or desired locations due to these changes.

Susan Boyer

From: [Susan Glogovac](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Protect Route 92 and Preserve Existing Service to Fox Point and the East Side
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 9:47:48 AM

I am writing to be sure you protect Route 92 and preserve the existing service to Fox Point and the East Side. Cutting this would disproportionately impact low-income seniors.

Please protect our most vulnerable neighbors in Fox Point who depend on this service to stay connected and cared for. These neighbors rely on route 92 to access groceries, medical appointments and vital services.

Cutting weekend service and limiting frequency would make daily life significantly harder for them.

We can't let this happen.

Standing in solidarity with all our neighbors,
Susan Glogovac



Providence RI 02906

From: [William Connor](#)
To: [MarketingInfo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Ripta shorting
Date: Sunday, August 3, 2025 1:54:40 PM

Hello my name is William. I won't be able to go to the hearings so I'm here writing this email. I'm a senior citizen. How is this going to help those who doesn't have a car and need a bus to get to places. I use RIPTA to get to my appointments. This winter we would have to wait longer for the bus if this actually happens. They're students who need to go to school. How are they gonna get there if it's shut down. Think about the seniors and the kids. When shutting some buses down. Parents takes the bus for work to get the money to provide their house. Please think about this. Think about what can be done.

Sincerely, William