





## TRANSIT AGENCIES ROLL INTO RHODE ISLAND

It's all in the details.

Data was king last week as

representatives of mid-size public transit authorities from across the country gathered in Newport for the annual meeting of the American Bus Benchmarking Group (ABBG). RIPTA, an ABBG member, was happy to welcome the transit professionals who attended, particularly those who were visiting Rhode Island for the first time.

The ABBG is a consortium of mid-sized bus agencies in North America that was established in 2011 to benchmark performance data and share experiences and best practices in the industry. The data that the agencies share with each other covers almost every aspect of the transit industry – from fuel consumption to “on time” performance. “The common goal is to learn from each other so we can build on what’s already working well for other transit authorities,” said Barbara Polichetti, Director of Public Affairs for RIPTA. “RIPTA’s involvement in the ABBG is another indication of how committed we are to professional development that will enable us to better serve our customers.”

Transit professionals from more than 14 agencies arrived in Rhode Island early last week, hailing from Spokane, Rochester, Orlando, Fort Worth, Nashville and more. In between long hours of number-crunching they toured RIPTA’s facilities and got glimpses of the Ocean State. Attendees were impressed with Rhode Island’s natural beauty – particularly the coastline – and some people arrived with a little bit of local information. “We’ve heard that this is the state with the coffee milk,” one attendee was overhead saying. “Where can we try some?”

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## RIPTA HAS HEART

RIPTA was proud to be a media sponsor of this year's Southern New England Heart Walk which saw more than 7,000 people lace up their sneakers and trek the streets of Providence for a great cause. The event, organized by the American Heart Association, raised more than \$800,000 – the largest annual sum in the history of the event.

The funds raised will support the American Heart Association's research as it continues its work to reduce deaths from heart disease.



*Michelle Karn of the American Heart Association presents a media sponsor award to RIPTA Marketing Manager Dan Bannister.*

Last week, Michelle Karn of the Heart Association stopped by RIPTA with an appreciation award – we were happy to be part of such a worthwhile event.

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## RIPTA IN THE COMMUNITY

### LIFE: AN EXPO FOR BOOMERS AND SENIORS – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29



The Providence Journal is hosting a great event this Fall in Providence: Life: A Boomers and Seniors Expo. The event will be held at the Rhode Island Convention Center on Saturday, October 29, 2016 from 9am-5pm. This event is free to the public and will have over 80 vendors, entertainment throughout the day from the music era of the 1930s to 1970s and even an Elvis Impersonator! There will also be planned activities such as dance, bingo tent, wine tasting, demonstrations/seminars, health and fitness screening, classic cars, and much more. Celebrity guest speaker is Regis Philbin!

RIPTA will be on-site to help seniors learn how to access RIPTA's programs and services. Our team's goal is to empower the senior community to mobilize and remain independent. Our staff will show you how to read a bus schedule, receive a Senior Bus Pass and more!

[Click here](#) to register for the event.

# DETOURS

## MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER WALK – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

RIPTA will detour Routes 1, 3, 6, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 50, 51, 54, 55, 56, 57, 60, 66, 72, 78, 92, and the R-Line.



[Click here for details.](#)

## RIPTA TO DETOUR SEVEN ROUTES IN PROVIDENCE TO ACCOMMODATE THE MONSTER DASH 5K ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2016

RIPTA will detour seven bus routes in the downtown Providence area on Sunday, October 30, 2016 in order to accommodate the Monster Dash 5K Road Race.

[Click here for details.](#)



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