



## Join Us on Tuesday, June 18 for On-Site Interview Day for Drivers!



### On-Site Interview Day for Drivers: Tuesday, June 18

Interested in driving for RIPTA? Our Human Resources Department is eager to meet you! RIPTA will be hosting an **on-site interview day** for qualified applicants who are **interested in driving on Tuesday, June 18 from 10am to 6pm** at RIPTA headquarters located at 705 Elmwood Avenue, Providence. Interested applicants are encouraged to stop by or apply online at [\\*RIPTA.com/careers\\*](https://www.ripta.com/careers).

RIPTA van drivers start at \$25.33 per hour PLUS benefits! New hires will receive up to 8 weeks of paid training, including commercial driver license

(CDL) education and certification.

**RIPTA Offers:**

- Competitive Wages
- Pension Plan
- Health Benefits
- 457 Deferred Comp
- Dental Coverage
- Optional Life Insurance
- Vision Coverage
- Paid Vacation and Personal Time
- Flexible Spending Account
- Paid Sick Time
- Uniform Allowance

Visit [RIPTA.com/careers](https://ripta.com/careers) for more information.

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## Keep the No Pollute Commute Wheels Turning!

A huge thank you to all the amazing commuters who traded in their car keys for bike helmets during Bike to Work Month! It was fantastic seeing so many of you at our weekly pop-up events. Together, we biked an impressive **11,328 miles** and **reduced 8,200 lbs. in carbon emissions!**



But why stop now? The benefits of biking to work go beyond the challenge – it's a great way to stay fit, save money, and continue to reduce your carbon footprint. Keep the momentum going, and let's make every month Bike to Work Month! Your efforts make a difference, one pedal at a time.

**Don't forget to log your green trips [here](#) for a chance to win monthly prizes!**

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**FREE Hop-On Hop-Off Service Returns to Newport**

This summer, passengers can ride Route 67 and Route 68 for FREE! Funded by Discover Newport and the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, passengers can hop-on and hop-off these two routes through October 31, 2024, at no charge. The service offers transportation around Newport to tourist destinations and beaches. Visit [RIPTA.com/Newport](https://www.ripta.com/Newport) for details.



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## Summer Service Changes

RIPTA will implement summer service changes effective Saturday, June 15, 2024. RIPTA makes regular service adjustments three times a year in response to seasonal changes and/or passenger use. These annual changes are minor and include the start of selected summer services, and changes to trip times. [Click here](#) to see them.

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## Weekend Express Beach Bus Is Back

Express South County Beach Buses serving Scarborough, Roger Wheeler and Galilee State Beaches will operate from the communities of Woonsocket, Central Falls, Pawtucket, Providence (Kennedy Plaza), North Providence and Cranston. Service will operate on weekends and holidays beginning Saturday, June 29 through Saturday, August 31, 2024.



[Click here](#) for details.

**Voice your opinion on the future  
Providence Transit Center!**

**VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING**

**Thursday, June 13 | 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.**

Register at [ripta.com/transitcenter](https://ripta.com/transitcenter), scan the QR code, or stream live at [facebook.com/RideRIPTA](https://facebook.com/RideRIPTA).

RIPTA wants to hear your feedback on the future of a new state-of-the-art Providence Transit Center.



## Voice your opinion on the future Providence Transit Center!

RIPTA wants to hear your feedback on the future of a new state-of-the-art Providence Transit Center! Attend our upcoming virtual meeting on Thursday, June 13 from 6pm to 7pm or watch the livestream on our Facebook page.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

## Employee Spotlight

### Ruth Sullivan, Fixed-Route Driver, Newport

Ruth, a driver based in Newport, bursts with positive energy and an easy, genuine laugh. She jokes that

she's only an honorary Rhode Islander, having lived here for years but raised in the Midwest and western Massachusetts. Given the amount of time she's spent driving the streets of Rhode Island and serving the community, we think that she can consider herself a local. She started at RIPTA driving for two years in our Flex Division, but as a former school bus driver, she was eager to start driving the larger, fixed-route buses. Since then, for 18 years, Ruth has worked out of Newport driving Routes 60, 67, 64, and 14. Ruth knows all her regulars, and they certainly know her. According to Ruth, "It's been a very nice career."



What would she tell someone that was considering becoming a bus driver? Ruth describes the perfect bus driver as someone's who friendly, helpful, and sociable – personality traits Ruth has in spades, but not the reason she became a bus driver. When asked why she decided to drive for RIPTA, her response is simple. "Because it's unionized. If you do your job properly, you're protected." She brings up a great point - the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), Division 618, represents RIPTA's fixed-route and paratransit drivers. The ATU was successful in securing increased wages for drivers this past winter, working with RIPTA on a collective bargaining agreement that increased the starting driver wage from \$21.71 per hour to \$25.33 per hour.

Ruth lives in Tiverton where she enjoys living by the ocean and going for bike rides on the Sakonnet River Bridge. She is retiring this July after her 20-year-long career at RIPTA to spend time with her brand-new grandson. "It's been quite a nice experience, to know more of Rhode Island and Rhode Islanders." While we're sad to see her go, it makes us so happy to know she brightened

the days of so many RIPTA passengers with her warm personality. We wish her the best of luck in her new role as a grandmother.

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## 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:

### NEWPORT

Thursday, June 13 • 10am - 12pm  
Edward King House  
35 King Street

### EAST GREENWICH

Thursday, June 20 • 1:30pm - 3:30pm  
East Greenwich Senior Center  
121 Pierce Street

### COVENTRY

Thursday, June 27 • 10am - 12pm  
Coventry Senior Center  
50 Wood Street

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](https://www.ripta.com/ReducedFare).

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## SERVICE ALERTS

### HOLIDAY SERVICE

#### **RIPTA Celebrates Juneteenth, Wednesday, June 19, 2024**

RIPTA will operate all regular fixed-route bus service on a Sunday/Holiday schedule on Wednesday, June 19 in observance of Juneteenth National Independence Day. All RIPTA offices will be closed on the holiday, except for the Customer Service Kiosk in the Newport Transportation Center and the RIde Paratransit Program Office.

*Juneteenth commemorates June 19, 1865, when the last enslaved African Americans in Texas were informed of their freedom – two and a half years after President Lincoln outlawed slavery. Though it didn't become a federal holiday until 2021 and a paid state holiday in Rhode Island until this year (2024), Juneteenth celebrations have a long history in the United States.*

### DETOURS

#### **East Side Tunnel Closure:** Now through September 2024

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

#### **Al Fresco on the Hill:** Now through August 31

Route 92 will be on detour every Saturday from 3:00pm to 12:00am to accommodate outdoor dining on Federal Hill.

#### **PrideFest Parade & Celebrations:** Saturday, June 15

Routes 1, 3, 4, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 30, 35, 50, 51, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 78, 60, 72, 92 and the R-Line will be detoured from 6:30pm until 10:00pm. Routes 17, 18, 19, 31, 33, 34 will be detoured from 3:45pm to 10pm. Washington, Dorrance, Empire, Weybosset, and Fulton Streets will be closed during this time.

#### **Federal Hill Summer Festival:** Friday, June 21 - Sunday, June 23

Route 92 will be on detour from 12pm on Friday, June 21 through 11pm on Sunday, June 23.

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



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