



## RIPTA CELEBRATES VETERANS DAY

RIPTA will operate all fixed-route services on a Sunday/Holiday schedule on Friday, November 11, 2022. All RIPTA offices will be closed in observance of Veterans Day, an official state holiday. RIPTA will waive the fare for all Rhode Island veterans on Veterans Day with proof of eligibility.



RIPTA will also offer free service for veterans to [WaterFire – A Salute to Veterans](#) on Saturday, November 5, 2022. [Click here](#) for details.



**THANKSGIVING DAY**  
**THURS. NOVEMBER 24, 2022**  
**SUNDAY/HOLIDAY SERVICE**  
**RIPTA OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED**

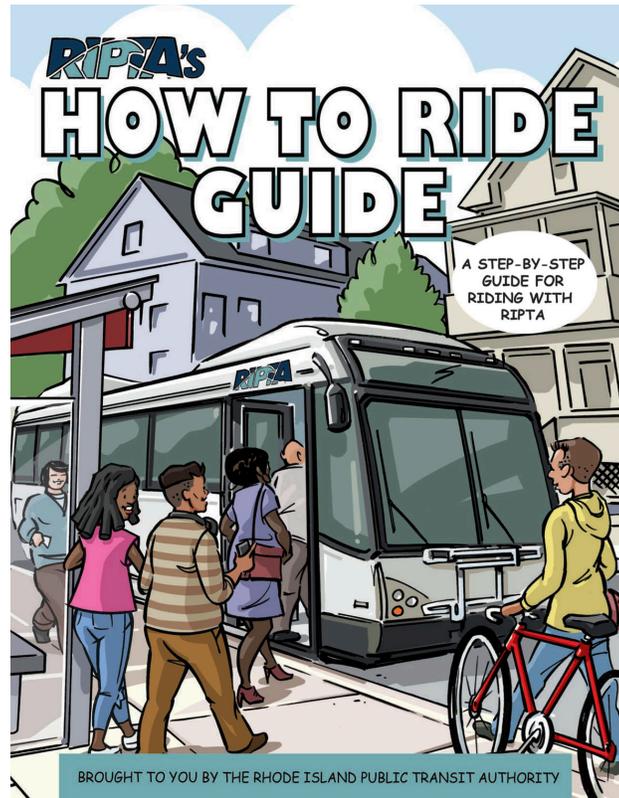
## RIPTA CELEBRATES THANKSGIVING DAY

RIPTA will operate all fixed-route services on a Sunday/Holiday schedule on Thursday, November 24, 2022 in observance of Thanksgiving Day, an official state holiday. [Click here](#) for details.

## ENCOURAGING TRANSIT INDEPENDENCE

RIPTA empowers older adults and people with disabilities to ride the bus independently through our travel training program. Our transit specialists provide personal, step-by-step instruction on how to effectively ride RIPTA, giving passengers the skills, confidence and independence to get where they need to go. Last month, our transit specialists visited the Providence Transition Academy, Pilgrim Senior Center in Warwick and Senior Services Inc. in Woonsocket where they presented RIPTA’s [“How to Ride Guide”](#) and answered questions about the Photo ID Bus Pass Program and more.

Travel training is scheduled upon request and is offered to students, people with disabilities, and older adults - or anyone looking to learn how to use transit! For more information, email [commuter@ripta.com](mailto:commuter@ripta.com).



*How to Ride Guide*

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## **RIPTA INVITES PUBLIC TO REVIEW INITIAL FINDINGS ON ADA PARATRANSIT EXPANSION STUDY**

The RI General Assembly has asked RIPTA to study paratransit service and design a statewide program that addresses the needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities traveling outside the current paratransit service area. Based on public input received at two September meetings, RIPTA has evaluated the parameters and cost of expanding paratransit service and examined several alternatives.

RIPTA is hosting two additional virtual meetings this month to share study findings and seek public input to incorporate into the report to the General Assembly.

### **VIRTUAL MEETING SCHEDULE**

You must register in advance to participate.

These virtual meetings are scheduled on Zoom as follows:

**Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 5:00PM**

**Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 10:00 AM**

Please click [HERE](#) to learn more.

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## **STUFF A BUS FOOD DRIVE – FRIDAY, NOV. 18 & SATURDAY, NOV. 19**

In the spirit of holiday giving, help RIPTA, [Ocean State Job Lot](#) and [iHeartMedia](#) “Stuff a Bus!” during our annual food drive. Our goal is to stuff RIPTA buses chock full of non-perishable food and canned good items that will be donated to We Share Hope. Your favorite local radio stations from iHeartMedia – 94HJY, NOW 93.3 and B101 – will be broadcasting live from this event!



[We Share Hope](#) is a non-profit organization that provides food deliveries six days a week to non-profit groups in Rhode Island who serve meals to their community members.

### **STUFF A BUS FOOD DRIVE SCHEDULE**

Ocean State Job Lot, 1493 Hartford Avenue, Johnston

Friday, November 18 from 6AM to 6PM

Saturday, November 19 from 8AM to 1PM

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## **RIPTA AWARDED CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING**

The [Government Finance Officers Association](#) (GFOA) has awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to RIPTA for its annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. The report has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report.

Established in 1945, the Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and



its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

RIPTA first obtained the award for its annual financial report in 2012 and recently received its tenth consecutive award.

## HOP-ON HOP-OFF NEWPORT PROMOTION ENDS

After a successful summer season, RIPTA's free "Hop-On Hop-Off" bus service promotion in Newport came to an end on October 31, 2022. The free service, funded by Discover Newport and the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, offered transportation around Newport to tourist destinations and beaches. This included all service on Route 67 (Bellevue/Salve Regina Univ.) and Route 68 (CCRI/Memorial Blvd./First Beach).



The RIPTA Customer Service Kiosk in the Newport Transportation Center, which opened for the duration of this promotion, also closed yesterday. Riders who need transit information are advised to call 401-784-9500 x2012.

## DOWNTOWN TRANSIT CONNECTOR FEATURED AT REGIONAL PLANNING CONFERENCE



*RIPTA Planners show visiting planners some of the user friendly features of our high-frequency bus corridor in downtown Providence.*

When about 400 planners from throughout New England came to Rhode Island last month for the annual conference of the Southern New England American Planning Association (SNEAPA), they discussed a wide range of topics including, land use,

environmental issues, funding sources and transportation.

RIPTA was proud that the event agenda included a mobile tour of our Downtown Transit Connector, a high frequency bus corridor which incorporates transit/pedestrian features such as bus-only lanes, raised crosswalks, bike lanes, enhanced bus shelters and much more. The corridor connects major destinations and activity centers from the Providence Train Station to Rhode Island Hospital.



**EMPLOYEE  
SPOTLIGHT: Olginia  
De Los Santos,  
Maintenance Records  
Specialist**

Olginia De Los Santos immigrated to the U.S. from the Dominican Republic with her family at the young age of six years old. Years later, her bilingual skills would land her a job as a RIPTA Customer Service Representative. While in that role, she processed Photo ID Bus Pass applications for older adults and people with

disabilities in addition to providing customer assistance and representing RIPTA at various special events.

Olginia's commitment to her work and the public resulted in a promotion to Maintenance Records Analyst in the Maintenance Department in 2019. In 2020, she was again promoted to Maintenance Records Specialist. In her current role, she oversees records and necessary reporting to support the operations of RIPTA's Maintenance Department. This includes data information related to fuel consumption, timekeeping, scheduling, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) vehicle records, and vehicle maintenance records.

During her 17 years here, Olginia has always been a team player and her collaborative attitude has been vital to the agency. She enjoys the different daily challenges that the Maintenance team encounters and how they work together to resolve them. When asked what she loves most about working at RIPTA Olginia answered, "The relationships that I have built with coworkers will last a lifetime."

When Olginia is not in the office, she devotes herself to family time with her four beautiful daughters. She says, "Experiencing life itself with them is fun and a blessing."

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## READY TO DRIVE YOUR CAREER FORWARD?

RIPTA is hiring!

Do you want career growth with an established organization where you can retire with a pension and benefits?

Attend the RIPTA Career Fair on **Thursday, November 10, 2022 from 10am to 1pm at 705 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, RI.**

We're currently hiring for the following positions:

- Mechanic
- Utility Worker
- Paratransit Operator
- Paratransit CDL Trainee

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.



**Ready to Drive Your Career Forward?**

- Variety of Career Paths
- Supportive & Growth-Oriented Culture
- Stable & Secure Employment
- Outstanding Benefits

**Now Hiring**

## DETOURS

### TURKEY TROT DETOUR - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

RIPTA will detour Routes 1, 71, 72, 75, 78, and the R-Line in the Pawtucket area from 8:00am to 11:30am to accommodate the Turkey Trot 5K. Roosevelt Avenue will be closed during this time. [Click here](#) for details.



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