



## A VISION FOR CLEAN TRANSIT

U.S. Senator Jack Reed was at RIPTA recently to talk about a bold new proposal that will dedicate \$73 billion in federal funds to electrify the nation’s approximately 70,000 public transit buses. With electric buses costing nearly double the price of regular bus, a clear vision and strong support from the federal government are essential if individual transit agencies are to build greener fleets. Greg Nordin, RIPTA’s Chief of Strategic Advancement, thanked Senator Reed for his commitment to the future of public transportation. “We are grateful for his foresight and advocacy,” Nordin said. “We could not do this alone.”



*Senator Reed at RIPTA speaking about The Clean Transit American Plan which would dedicate funding to electrify public transit fleets nationwide.*

## SUMMER SERVICE CHANGES

RIPTA will implement summer service changes effective Saturday, June 19, 2021. RIPTA makes regular service adjustments three times a year in response to seasonal changes and/or passenger use. These annual changes are minor include the start of selected summer services and trip time changes. [Click here](#) to see if your route is affected.



## 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. There will also be three (3) additional Providence Express trips in each direction during the midday between Providence Station, Kennedy Plaza and Scarborough, Roger Wheeler and Galilee State Beaches. Service will operate on weekends and holidays beginning Saturday, June 19 through Sunday, August 22. [Click here](#) for details.



## NEW! NEWPORT BEACH SHUTTLE PILOT PROGRAM

RIPTA is launching a beach shuttle pilot program on weekends and holidays starting June 19 through August 22, 2021 in the Newport and Middletown area. [Click here](#) for details.

## FACE MASKS REQUIRED ON BOARD ALL RIPTA VEHICLES

RIPTA is reminding passengers that the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has extended the federal mandate requiring that face masks be worn when using public transportation, including subways and buses. The mandate, which took effect February 1, 2021, has been extended through September 13, 2021. [Click here](#) for details.

**Face masks required.**



**Effective 2/1/2021**

TSA requires proper wearing of face masks, per federal law. Face masks are to be worn at all times. Failure to comply will result in denial of boarding or removal, and may result in penalties.



Stay Healthy. Stay Secure.  
tsa.gov/coronavirus

*The CDC requires masks on Public Transportation Conveyances and Transportation Hubs. If you are unable to wear a mask due to a disability or medical condition, you MUST call 784-9500 x2012 to request an exemption prior to traveling on board any RIPTA vehicle.*

## VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS ON PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGES



RIPTA often receives feedback from passengers related to the current service in the West Bay area. We hear how the connections between routes are limited, and that some major destinations in the region have no service at all. The proposed changes are the start of an effort to reconfigure the bus service in the West Bay area in an effort to address these issues.

**RIPTA will be holding two virtual public hearings on the proposed**

**changes.** To sign up for the hearing, please email [marketing@ripta.com](mailto:marketing@ripta.com) in advance. Please indicate which hearing time you would like to register for. For more information on the proposed changes visit [RIPTA.com/Fall2021](http://RIPTA.com/Fall2021)

**Virtual Public Hearings**

Thursday, June 10, 2021  
 2PM - 4PM  
 6PM - 8PM

**RIPTA WINS OUTSTANDING SMART GROWTH PLAN**

RIPTA is excited to learn that the State’s first Transit Master Plan - Transit Forward RI 2040 - has been chosen as an “Outstanding Smart Growth Plan” by [GrowSmart RI](#). The plan, which was formally adopted by the State in December, is the result of three years of hard work and robust community engagement by RIPTA, the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) and the Division of Statewide Planning. GrowSmart also cited the state’s new **Bicycle Mobility Plan** for recognition, noting that for the first time, Rhode Island now has “two data-drive action plans for vastly improving transit and bike mobility access.” [Click here](#) to read more about the Transit Master Plan.





*Melissa Devine of Leadership RI, presents Operator Ellie Giblin with flowers as well as a "hero coin" for being a Good Samaritan.*

## ONE GOOD DEED DESERVES ANOTHER

It is true that not all heroes wear capes, and RIPTA Operator Ellie Giblin was an inspiring example last month when she stopped her bus to come to the aid of a man who appeared poised to jump off the Henderson Bridge. Her act of kindness has been praised by RIPTA leaders and state officials, and most recently she

was presented with a "hero coin" by the 2020 Class of [Leadership Rhode Island](#). "Ellie's actions today are a rare act - that of a passionate, caring and brave hero," said Leadership class member Melissa Devine in presenting the award. Giblin has also received a citation from Rhode Island Secretary of State Nellie M. Gorbea. We continue to be so proud of this humble hero.

## WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

June 5 marks [World Environment Day](#), the United Nations' flagship day for promoting worldwide awareness and action for the environment. Over the years, it has grown to be the largest global platform for environmental public outreach and is celebrated by millions of people across the world.



How will you celebrate World Environment Day? Help reduce greenhouse gas emissions! Consider joining (or starting!) a [vanpool](#) or urging a friend to try transit! Every bit helps.

Public transportation use is one of the most effective actions individuals can take to conserve energy.

[Click here](#) to learn more about RIPTA's commuter programs.

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## FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE TO ACCOMMODATE PARK AVENUE BRIDGE CLOSING

The Park Avenue Bridge in Cranston is closed to auto and pedestrian traffic as RIDOT works to replace the old, structurally deficient bridge. The project is expected to last about four months.

During this time, RIPTA is providing free shuttle service to accommodate pedestrians who will not have access to the Park Avenue Railroad Bridge. The shuttle will allow people walking on Park Avenue to connect from Doric Avenue on the west side of the bridge to Elmwood Avenue on the east side of the bridge. [Click here](#) for details.

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## GASPEE DAYS PARADE – SATURDAY, JUNE 12

RIPTA will detour Route 4 (Warwick Ave.) from the first trip of the day until 2pm. Outbound trips will travel regular route to Broad St. and Norwood Ave., continue onto Warwick Ave. and then resume regular route. Inbound trips will travel regular route to Warwick Ave., turn right onto Norwood Ave., and then resume regular route.



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