



## **SPEAK UP – YOUR ROUTES MIGHT BE CHANGING!**



**Click details for more information!**

RIPTA wants your feedback on how to improve transit services in Rhode Island. As part of a statewide review of transit services called a Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA), RIPTA staff is hoping to hear from both users and non-users of the system.

The study has undertaken a detailed review process to identify where people live and work, how each bus route is performing today, and where changes might possibly be made to better serve riders. Ideas under consideration can be found on the Projects page of RIPTA's website at <http://www.ripta.com/featured-project>. Members of the public can go online to review and provide comment on two alternative service scenarios, letting RIPTA know which ideas they like best. Each scenario is designed to work within RIPTA's existing budget, and the intent is to direct transit resources where they would be most effective.

Public input has been a key part of the COA. In August and September, RIPTA surveyed nearly 10,000 users of the bus system in order to better understand where people need to travel, and what type of services they desire. Throughout the fall, over 700 people posted comments on RIPTA's website, providing feedback on detailed evaluations of each bus route.

RIPTA staff will submit specific final recommendations for improving the statewide transit network based on comments collected from the public.

Please attend one of the posted community meetings to learn more about proposed changes. We'll be recording your comments and input at these meetings!

### **COMMUNITY MEETING SCHEDULE**

**University of Rhode Island**  
Feinstein Providence Campus  
Auditorium  
80 Washington Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
Monday, February 25, 2013  
12:00PM – 2:00PM

**Warwick City Hall**

Council Chambers  
3275 Post Road  
Warwick, RI 02886  
Monday, February 25, 2013  
5:00PM-7:00PM

**Narragansett Town Hall**

Assembly Room  
25 Fifth Avenue  
Narragansett, RI 02882  
Tuesday, February 26, 2013  
5:00PM-7:00PM

**CCRI Newport Campus**

Auditorium  
One John H. Chafee Blvd.  
Newport, RI 02840  
Wednesday, February 27, 2013  
5:00PM-7:00PM

**RIPTA Headquarters**

705 Elmwood Avenue  
Providence, RI 02907  
Thursday, February 28, 2013  
5:00PM-7:00PM

**Glocester Senior Center**

1210 Putnam Pike Chepachet, RI 02814  
Monday, March 4, 2013  
6:00PM-8:00PM

**Barrington Public Library**

2nd Floor Auditorium  
Wednesday, March 6, 2013  
6:00PM – 8:00PM

To learn more about the COA, please visit the project website at <http://www.ripta.com/coa-project-documents>. To sign-up to be part of the project mailing list, please email [coa@ripta.com](mailto:coa@ripta.com).

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**TAKE TWICE DAILY  
TO AVOID WINTER  
CONGESTION**

Introducing **Wickford Wintertime Wednesdays**  
Park and ride the train to Providence **for free**

While we can't predict how much snow we'll have this winter, we can predict that traffic during commuting hours is worse in stormy weather.

Many of your neighbors have discovered commuter rail service from Wickford Junction. We'd like to invite you to try it out. We're introducing Wickford Wintertime Wednesdays. Every Wednesday, from January 16 through February 27, you can park and ride the train from Wickford Junction to Providence roundtrip for free.

Go to [www.wickfordjunction.com](http://www.wickfordjunction.com) to register for free parking and tickets, current train schedule, and more information.

Wickford Wintertime Wednesdays are brought to you by:



Wickford Junction Commuter Rail Station, 1011 Ten Rod Road, North Kingstown, RI

## ALL ABOARD! THERE'S STILL TIME TO TRY THE TRAIN FOR FREE!

RIPTA's Commuter Resource RI Program and the Rhode Island Department of Transportation are kicked off "Wickford Wintertime Wednesdays" on January 23, 2013. This commuter initiative offers FREE round-trip train tickets from the new Wickford Junction Commuter Rail Station to

Providence every Wednesday through February 27, 2013.

Commuters who take advantage of "*Wickford Wintertime Wednesday*" can also park for free at Wickford Junction.

Normally, a round-trip ticket from Wickford to Providence costs \$6.50 and parking costs \$4 a day.

Are you interested in trying the train for FREE?

Click here <http://www.wickfordjunction.com/wickwed.pdf> to download a registration form. Complete it and then bring it with you to the registration table on the second-floor waiting area inside the Wickford Junction Commuter Rail Station.

RIPTA's Commuter Resource team will be at the train station every Wednesday during this promotion from distributing transit information, answering questions and registering passengers for prizes! Commuters who register for this promotion will receive FREE coffee.

## RIPTA'S "RHODY TEN" PHOTO CONTEST GOING ON NOW!



RIPTA's "Rhody Ten" Photo Contest, running exclusively online, kicked off February 1, 2013. Participants are invited to capture an image of Rhode Island and submit it to be featured on RIPTA's monthly Rhody Ten Pass by March 1, 2013. The contest is free and open to all photographers. Six winning photos will be chosen by RIPTA Staff. The winners will receive their photo featured on a monthly Rhody Ten Pass, a photo credit, a RIPTA prize pack, and a gift card to Snookers Sports, Billiards, Bar & Grill (easily accessible by RIPTA Routes 53, 55, and 58).

These photos will be featured on the July – December 2013 Rhody Ten Passes.

Winners will be announced via email, Twitter and Facebook.

Entries must include the location of the photo, the photographer's name and contact information, and a short caption. Photos, along with the necessary information, must be submitted by e-mail to [marketing@ripta.com](mailto:marketing@ripta.com). For more information and specific contest details, click [here](#).

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## BIKE PROVIDENCE WITH RIPTA'S RACK N' RIDE PROGRAM

Did you know that there is a Providence Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission?

Mayor Angel Taveras created this advisory panel last May in hopes of making Providence more bicycle- and pedestrian-friendly. The commission

studies changes in laws on bikers and pedestrians and incorporate biking and pedestrian planning into the city's sustainability plan. Read about the City's bicycling master plan here (<http://www.vhb.com/BikeProvidence>) , which will allow the City to create a long term plan for bicycling in the city using the four E's of bicycle planning: engineering (and planning), education, encouragement, and enforcement.

Speaking of encouragement, RIPTA encourages you to try out our FREE Rack N' Ride Program. All RIPTA's buses are equipped with bike racks. Take the bus one-way or part of the way and then cycle the rest! There's no charge to use the bike racks located on the front of the bus! Click here for a video demonstration (<http://www.ripta.com/bike>) on how to use the bike rack.

## MEET OUR WINTER RIPTA RIDER CONTEST WINNER! FEBRUARY WINNER



Meet Youth in Action, our February RIPTA Riders of the Month! Youth In Action is a partnership between youth, adults, and community where young people are at the forefront of creating positive social change. They believe RIPTA is vital to all of Rhode Island's Youth as it gives them the mobility they need daily to get to school, attend social functions and be independent. Click [here](#) to view Youth In Action's TV commercial.

Make sure to check back here next month to meet our March RIPTA Rider of the Month!



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