



RIPTA AND GREEN AIRPORT UNVEIL NEW transART SHELTER

RIPTA and Green Airport have unveiled a new TransART bus shelter designed by artist Wright Deter Enterprises. Located on the sidewalk along the commercial roadway in front of the airport



Terminal, the shelter features customer amenities such as seating and better protection from the elements. It also features interior energy efficient LED lighting completely powered by solar. With the addition of this shelter at Green Airport, there are currently fourteen TransArt shelters installed throughout Rhode Island.

RIPTA provides direct service to the airport on Routes 20 (Elmwood Ave) and Route 14 (West Bay). Passengers can also take Route 8 (Jefferson Blvd) to the InterLink, a short walk to the terminal.

[Click here](#) for details.



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO BEAT TRAFFIC AND TRY TRANSIT!

The campaign, launched in July 2013, is designed to ease traffic congestion on the Interstate through Providence during peak travel times. Commuters can take advantage of discounted bus fares from select Park n' Ride lots across the state as well as free parking at select commuter rail stations. "Beat Traffic, Try Transit" will run now through Friday, June 27, 2014. [Click here](#) for a complete list of participating lots and more information on how you can beat traffic!

youR Line. ouR Line. The R-Line. Coming Summer 2014.

Coming Summer 2014, the R-Line will provide a more pleasant riding experience for riders. With our newly branded bus stops that will have more amenities for passengers to the reduced travel times along Broad and North Main St., RIPTA passengers will see a noticeable improvement in service in these corridors. Other highlights will include more frequent service during nights and weekends, brightly painted buses to differentiate between other routes, and direct service to popular locations. Service improvements will take effect in June of 2014, and construction of passenger waiting facilities will begin in May. Thanks to the innovative nature of bus rapid transit, RIPTA received competitive state and federal grants to fund most of the R-Line's capital costs (buses and shelters).



The R-Line is RIPTA's first Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line, designed to serve people quickly and efficiently on a 7-mile route between Pawtucket and Providence. To ensure fast travel, Rapid Transit takes advantage of signal priority and operates as frequently as every 10 minutes. The R-Line will replace RIPTA Routes 11 and 99.

WORKING TO IMPROVE KENNEDY PLAZA

Kennedy Plaza is the focal point for RIPTA's statewide services. If you ride RIPTA you have undoubtedly spent some time in the Plaza. It is served by most of RIPTA's 55 bus routes, is located in the heart of downtown Providence, and offers customer information, ticketing and an indoor waiting area. Ridership growth in recent years presents RIPTA with increasing challenges to the delivery of efficient, and attractive service at this location. Since the Kennedy Plaza was last rebuilt in 2001, the number of passengers using this space has grown significantly. The outer berths are narrow and don't easily accommodate those waiting for buses at peak times. High numbers of passengers boarding mean buses are in the Plaza for longer periods and can fall behind schedule. Last Spring, RIPTA conducted an online Customer Satisfaction Survey where many riders expressed their concerns about the Plaza, including safety issues.

For the last several years, RIPTA, the City of Providence, along with the Downtown Providence Parks Conservancy and other partners have been working to improve both the transit experience at Kennedy Plaza and to make the Plaza and the adjoining Burnside Park a greater civic place. Progress has been made, and the City is leading efforts to make major changes this year. RIPTA is hopeful these changes will allow us to provide great service in a comfortable environment in a manner that allows the surrounding area to reach its full potential.

Improvements recommended as part of RIPTA's Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA) will allow us to reduce the overall number of bus berths needed in the Plaza, not by reducing service, but by improving scheduling efficiencies. Full implementation of COA improvements is anticipated to attract new riders and increase, not decrease, the number of passengers using public transit, making these overall efforts to improve the Greater Kennedy Plaza even more timely as we aim to increase ridership.

RIPTA's role in the reconfiguration of Kennedy Plaza includes efforts to upgrade passenger amenities and ensure effective and safe pedestrian access and circulation. RIPTA is working with a consultant to identify the location and design of necessary and desired passenger amenities, including new shelters and signage, and to make sure that all transit elements fit together as part of a cohesive package. Development of the design of passenger amenities include consideration of shelters, seating and lighting. The new Plaza design will also include real time information at all bus stops and the introduction of several Ticket Vending Machines in the Plaza to reduce bus boarding times by providing more opportunities to pre-pay your fare.

Stay tuned for more updates on how we are working to improve the Plaza, more details will be coming soon.

RIPTA IN THE COMMUNITY

**STUFF A BUS WITH LOVE
TEDDY BEAR DRIVE –
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8,
2014 – 11AM-3PM**



RIPTA is partnering with Alex and Ani Charity by Design, WPR12, Cox Media, WHJJ 920 News Radio, Coast 93.3 and B101 for the Stuff A Bus with Love Teddy Bear Drive to benefit the Hasbro Children’s Hospital. The public is invited to help Stuff A Bus by donating a brand new, unused teddy bear in its original packaging. Each person who donates will receive a special gift from Alex and Ani (while supplies last) and a RIPTA t-shirt. RIPTA will be collecting teddy bears at the Alex and Ani flagship store at 2000 Chapel View Boulevard in Cranston.

Commuter Corner

Commuter Resource RI is advising all students in the UPass program to secure their student ID’s when using RIPTA. ID’s/Bus passes are continually being left on the buses and can be used by someone else. Lost ID’s can add costs RIPTA, the schools, and students so please keep them safely secured so that they are not lost. Thank you.

Get set for an exciting new incentive based commuter program that will knock your socks off! Or maybe your wheels off! This program will assist commuters to use alternate modes of transportation while earning rewards points for gifts and prizes. Look for it arriving in the Spring!



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