



## **RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY**



## PARTICIPANTS IN RIPTA PROGRAM FOR LOW INCOME SENIORS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES WILL RIDE FOR FREE

Beginning Saturday, July 1, 2017, passengers enrolled in RIPTA's Reduced Fare Bus Pass Program for low income senior citizens and persons with disabilities will travel for free. Thanks to collaboration between the Governor's Office and the General Assembly, RIPTA will no longer be charging program

participants a reduced fare of 50-cents per boarding and 25-cents per transfer. That reduced fare, which was one-fourth of full fare prices, has been in effect since February 1, 2017.

Passengers enrolled in RIPTA's Reduced Fare Bus Pass Program will not have to make any changes to ride for free. Although their RIPTA photo identification cards state "reduced fare", RIPTA is reprogramming the fareboxes on its buses to accept those cards as full payment when tapped at the farebox. This will apply to passengers who have the light blue cards with a white wave design that are labeled as "valid all day." In order to qualify for this program, participants must be at least 65 years old and not have an annual income in excess of 200-percent of the federal poverty level or they must be certified as having a disability and not have an annual income in excess of 200-percent of the federal poverty level. Specifics about the application process and examples of documentation required can be found at: http://bit.ly/1iYyI5I. If any future

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changes need to be made to the cards that program participants are issued, RIPTA will notify the public accordingly.

RIPTA officials noted that the State has provided funding for the program for two years and stipulated that a study be conducted to coordinate human service transportation needs and resources in the state with the goal of finding future funding for this type of assistance. "We thank our government partners for providing this temporary funding which allows RIPTA to offer no-fare service to those most in need," said Ray Studley, CEO of RIPTA. "We look forward to upcoming discussions about the best way to make this service sustainable."

## PUBLIC INVITED TO GIVE INPUT ON HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Do you or someone in your family have special transportation needs? The Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) wants to hear your thoughts



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and experiences as we host four informal public meetings to assist our work in updating the RI Coordinated Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan. The Coordinated Plan, which must be updated every five years, is intended to identify and catalog all transportation options for senior citizens and persons with disabilities – including services offered by social service agencies and municipalities. RIPTA is working with its consultants, and with support from the Rhode Island Division of Planning, on this 2017 Plan update.

South Kingstown Senior Center 25 St. Dominic Road, Wakefield July 11, 2017 / 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

MLK Community Center 20 Dr. Marcus F. Wheatland Blvd., Newport July 18, 2017 / 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Cranston Senior Center 1070 Cranston Street, Cranston July 13, 2017 / 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM Blackstone Valley CAP Community Center 210 West Avenue, Pawtucket July 20, 2017/1:30-3:30 PM



### **BUS STOP DESIGN GUIDE**

It's here – the Official Bus Stop Design Guide! Over the past year, RIPTA held public meetings and presentations to solicit valuable passenger input on setting guidelines describing where and how a bus stop should be built. These guidelines will be used by RIPTA, the Rhode Island Department of Transportation, municipalities and others, when roads with RIPTA bus routes are reconstructed or otherwise improved.

Click here to view the guide.

# RETHINK YOUR RIDE – WITH A VANPOOL!

RIPTA has partnered with Enterprise Rideshare, a ride sharing program that offers commuters and employers an alternative way to commute. Vanpools help RIPTA as it works to get people to travel smarter and reduce the number of single occupancy vehicles on the road --



and it helps our customers with commuting alternatives in areas that may not be served by bus routes!

Vanpooling saves money, time, wear and tear on your personal vehicle and the environment!

For more information on joining or starting a vanpool group, visit www.Enterprise Rideshare.com or email commuter@ripta.com.

For more information on all of Commuter Resource RI's services, visit trytransitRI.com.

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## DETOURS

OAKLAND BEACH FIREWORKS – MONDAY, JULY 3

RIPTA will detour Route 3 (Warwick Ave.) to accommodate the fireworks at Oakland Beach.

The detour will be in effect from 5pm until Midnight.

Click here for details.

#### **RIPTA OBSERVES FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY**

RIPTA will run a Sunday/Holiday service schedule on Tuesday, July 4, 2017, in observance of the Fourth of July. The Sunday/Holiday schedule will apply to all regular fixed-route buses and trolleys. RIPTA Offices in Kennedy Plaza, RIde Reservation Office, and Flex Reservation Office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4, 2017 in celebration of the holiday. In addition, RIPTA will detour Route 60 (Providence/Newport) on Tuesday, July 4TH to accommodate the Bristol Fourth of July Parade.

Click here for details.



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