



**Happy New
Year from
RIPTA's Chief
Executive
Officer**

Dear Valued Riders,

As we embark on a new year, I want to extend my heartfelt

wishes to each of you. Your continued support means so much to us, and we are grateful to have you on board as part of our transit family.

May the coming year bring you joy, prosperity, and exciting journeys. Thank you for choosing us as your preferred mode of transportation, and we look forward to serving you in the days ahead.

Happy New Year!

Sincerely,
Scott Avedisian
Chief Executive Officer



RIPTA Drives Up Holiday Cheer!

There was no short supply of generosity this holiday season with businesses, sports teams, fans, RIPTA employees and the public opening up their hearts and participating in a number of toy drives we were so proud to be part of. Whether it was URI Rams facing off against the Friars, the U. S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots teaming up with Cardi's Furniture & Mattresses and Rhode Island FC, or the Providence Bruins and their fans all pitching in for Hasbro Children's Hospital –it was a virtual Toyland of donations guaranteed to brighten the holiday for so many youngsters. At each event, we challenged people to help us “stuff a bus” with donations and are happy to report that the challenges were



easily met thanks to everyone's kindness and collaboration.

We love these partnerships and are so grateful to all who donated – it made our Christmas merrier too!

New Bus Stop Signs at CCRI

Neither cold nor biting wind was enough to stop our team from installing new, improved bus stop signage last week at the Community College of Rhode Island Warwick campus where a lot of our West Bay service converges.

The new signs are larger and feature the route numbers and destinations of buses serving the stop. A QR

code easily connects passengers to our website. These sign improvements are part of the CCRI Bus Stop Enhancement Project. New bus shelters will be arriving next!

We're excited for these improvements that will make riding with us even easier!

BUS STOP ENHANCEMENTS

BUS STOP SIGNS

NEW DESIGN FEATURES

- STOP DESTINATION** - Crosstown to Warwick, West Warwick and Coventry
- ROUTE NUMBERS** - 13 Woodland Manor (Coventry), 23 Centre of New England, 29 Conimicut (Warwick)
- LARGER SIGNS**
- TRIP PLANNER** - QR code to scan and plan your trip

CCRI WARWICK (STOP C) STOP ID 17265

RIPTA.com 401.781.9400

2024 Sunday/Holiday Schedule

The following are the legal holidays in the State of Rhode Island that will be observed by RIPTA. On holidays, Sunday schedules for each route will be observed, when available.

The Ride paratransit program does not provide standing order trips (recurring service) on RIPTA holidays. If you need a ride on the holiday, please call the Ride reservation line (401-461-9760) prior to the holiday to schedule a trip for that day.

Holiday service will operate on the following dates:

- New Year’s Day**, Monday, January 1, 2024
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**, Monday, January 15, 2024
- Memorial Day**, Monday, May 27, 2024
- Juneteenth**, Wednesday, June 19, 2024
- Independence Day**, Thursday, July 4, 2024
- Victory Day**, Monday, August 12, 2024
- Labor Day**, Monday, September 2, 2024
- Indigenous Peoples’ Day/Columbus Day**, Monday, October 14, 2024
- Veterans Day**, Monday, November 11, 2024
- Thanksgiving Day**, Thursday, November 28
- Christmas Day**, Wednesday, December 25

Winter Service Changes to Take Effect Saturday, January 13, 2024

RIPTA will implement winter service changes effective Saturday, January 13, 2024. RIPTA is



making minor changes to Routes 23, 27, 28, 31, 55, 56, 57, 60 and the R-Line.

RIPTA makes regular service adjustments three times a year in response to seasonal changes and/or passenger use. [Click here](#) for details.

Winter Weather Preparation

During periods of heavy snow and ice, buses, like personal vehicles, may sometimes fall behind schedule, but rest

assured our bus drivers will be working to reach your stop as soon as possible. Buses not only get slowed down by the snow, but also by surrounding traffic. Plan extra time for your commute and take an earlier trip if possible. Passengers are always advised to use extreme caution at bus stops due to decreased visibility and slippery conditions.

Passengers are also strongly advised to monitor news reports, check [RIPTA.com/alerts](https://www.ripta.com/alerts), download the [Transit app](#), and check RIPTA's social media outlets ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)) for service advisory updates.

Sign up for email alerts for the routes you ride. This service provides subscribers with information about detours, temporary service disruptions and service changes.

HOW TO SIGN UP FOR EMAIL ALERTS

To sign up for email alerts, visit <https://www.ripta.com/schedules>. Click on the route you would like to receive alerts for and then click on "Receive Updates for This Schedule." Enter your email address in the form that pops up and then click "Subscribe."

Be A Good Passenger

We want all passengers to enjoy a safe and comfortable ride, so please observe the following rules when riding RIPTA:

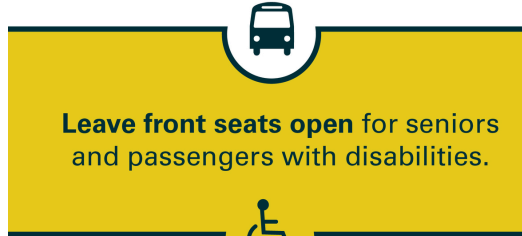


- Leave front seats open for seniors and passengers with disabilities.
- Fold strollers and shopping carts before boarding. Do not block the aisle with personal items.
- Personal items must not block aisles or doorways and may not be placed in wheelchair securement areas or on seats.

[Click here](#) to read the Rules of Conducts for RIPTA Passengers and Patrons.



We want all passengers to enjoy a **safe and comfortable ride**, so please observe the **following rules** when riding RIPTA.



Are You an Active Participant in RIPTA’s Low-Income Pilot Program?

Last winter, RIPTA launched a new no fare bus pass pilot program to understand the travel needs of low-income individuals who do not qualify for existing transit assistance programs. If you enrolled in this pilot program and are still using your Photo ID Wave card, you may continue using it on board buses throughout January. If you would like to keep using your Wave card from February until the end of April 2024 through this pilot, you must contact the agency that enrolled you in this program by February 9, 2024.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Employee Spotlight

Sheryl Gomes, Contracts Manager

Most passengers won't see Sheryl Gomes, RIPTA's Contracts Manager in the Procurement Department. But she would like them to know that she's working hard for them – coordinating with her colleagues to pour over bids and contracts to make sure RIPTA is maximizing its funding and getting the best purchase options for goods and services. "Serving the public is part of RIPTA's mission and we do that on the business side too," she says.



Gomes, who has been at RIPTA for about two years, said that she was new to transit when she started with the Authority, but not new to a commitment to serving people, individually and collectively. She holds a master's degree in human development and family studies from the University of Rhode Island and has held a number of positions, including teaching at the college level.

"Sheryl has brought a new perspective and willingness to work hard on all our procurements," said John Chadwick, Executive Director of Procurement and Inventory. "She truly has become one of the bright lights in our office."

She says she loves working at RIPTA, not only because of the public service aspect, but because of the collegial atmosphere and the professionalism of her colleagues. "It's a privilege working with my co-workers, and I think one of the best things I can do is to work with respect for them," she says. "If I do my job well, then they can do their jobs well too and we can all work together for the benefit of the public." Gomes says that she also appreciates the fact that RIPTA gives her the latitude to pursue activities of value, such as organizing a blood drive at work.

"I feel very supported here," says Gomes who is the mother of 23-year-old twin boys. "We are all working to make public transit in Rhode Island be the best it can be."

Drive Your Career Forward

Join our team!
 RIPTA is an established organization that offers career growth and excellent benefits including a pension plan.

Attend the **RIPTA Career Fair** on **Monday, January 16, 2024** from **10am to 3pm** at 705 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, RI.



We're currently hiring for the following positions:

- Project Manager - Bus Stops
- Financial Analyst-Capital and Grants
- Executive Director of Facilities & Maintenance
- Utility Worker
- Mechanic
- 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.

RIPTA Photo ID Bus Pass Road Trips

RIPTA's Photo Identification staff will travel to communities throughout the state to process bus pass applications for qualified seniors and individuals with

disabilities who are unable to get to our office in Providence. Staff also provides travel training.

RIPTA staff will process Photo ID bus passes at the following location:

NEWPORT

Thursday, January 18 • 10am - 12pm
William Donovan Manor, 19 Chapel Street

Photo ID bus passes cost \$10 and are valid for two years.



[Click here](#) to view upcoming RIPTA Photo ID Road Trips.

For information on how to qualify for RIPTA's Bus Pass Program for Seniors and People with Disabilities, customers can call (401) 784-9500, ext. 2012 or visit [RIPTA.com/ReducedFare](https://ripta.com/ReducedFare).



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