



RIPTA Observes Indigenous Peoples' Day/Columbus Day

RIPTA will operate all regular fixed-route buses and trolleys on a Sunday/Holiday schedule in observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day/Columbus Day on Monday, October 9, 2023.

All RIPTA offices, except for the Customer Service Kiosk at the [Newport Transportation Center](#), will be closed in recognition of the holiday.

[Click here](#) for details.

Passengers Must Pay Full Fare on R-Line Starting Today, October 1, 2023

RIPTA's R-Line fare free pilot program ended yesterday, September 30, 2023. Starting TODAY, October 1, 2023, R-Line passengers are required to pay the full fare, which is \$2 per boarding with cash or \$2 for one hour of unlimited rides with Wave. The farebox does not make change; riders must pay with exact change only.

Fare Free Paratransit Ride Service Ends

During the pilot program period, Ride paratransit service was free for passengers making trips that begin and end within 3/4 mile of the R-line. Starting today, October 1, 2023, paratransit passengers are required to pay the full fare, which is \$4 per trip.

[Click here](#) to learn more.



**Free Fare Pilot
ENDS SEPT 30!**

**Passengers must pay
FULL FARE starting Oct 1**

Pay your fare with **Wave** or
\$2 cash (exact change only)



RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY

RIPTA Receives Worksite Health Award

Whether it's getting a flu shot, going for a walk, or making sure you get your annual physical, RIPTA encourages its employees to be healthy. Last month, RIPTA received a Worksite Health Award from Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island, along with the Greater



RIPTA's HR team smiles for the camera with RIPTA CEO

Providence Chamber of Commerce for its Transit to Wellness incentive program. RIPTA was one of 43 recipients and was named an “Outstanding Winner.”

In announcing this year’s awards, Blue Cross stated, “When employee wellness is a top priority, everybody wins.”

Looking for a workplace that values your health and wellbeing? Join our team! Visit: [RIPTA.com/careers](https://www.ripta.com/careers)



RIPTA to the Rescue!

On Tuesday, September 5, 2023, RIPTA learned that an Amtrak northbound trip was unexpectedly stopped somewhere between Westerly and Providence. Stranded train passengers, many with luggage, changed their travel mode from rail to

bus and boarded RIPTA Route 66 Inbound at the South County and Wickford Train Stations. We picked them up and our dispatchers made sure we had enough vehicles to get everyone to the Providence Station.

“With the luggage, our buses were filled to capacity, but thanks to the quick-thinking of Dispatch and our drivers we were able to get the passengers on to their destination or connections in Providence,” said Paul Harrington, Executive Director of Transportation for RIPTA. “We were just glad to be of assistance.”

Ride Recognition

We know how important our Ride paratransit program is to our riders. Connecting people with the important places in their lives is a vital service, and we appreciated seeing the following op-ed published in the Providence Journal. Thank you to our Ride drivers and passengers alike!

[Click here](#) to read the article.

The Providence Journal

I write in praise of RIPTA! Yes RIPTA | Opinion

Jim Raftus Guest columnist
Published 6:04 a.m. ET Sept. 3, 2023



Jim Raftus lives in Cumberland.

It is a decades-long tradition to bemoan the incompetence of many of the alphabet soup government agencies; [DMV \(Department of Motor Vehicles\)](#), [IRS \(Internal Revenue Service\)](#) and [RIPTA \(Rhode Island Public Transportation Authority\)](#). There is no denying that in the past these entities with their bloat, inefficiencies and attitudes have earned much of this derision.



Employee Spotlight

Vital Da Rosa, Utility Person

Every day, employees in RIPTA’s administrative offices come to work to find the building gleaming and clean – transformed overnight by the hard work of Utility employee Vital Da Rosa. A self-proclaimed perfectionist, Da Rosa, who has worked at RIPTA for 22 years, says he is a firm believer in the philosophy that any job worth doing is worth doing well.



“If I’ve learned anything in my life, it’s that you can make a difference wherever you go,” he says. “To be successful at work, just do these basic things: Show up every day, don’t be late, and do what is asked of you – with a smile!”

Originally from the Açores, Portugal, Da Rosa, 64, worked in different careers, including the manufacturing of fiber optic cables, before coming to RIPTA. “I felt it was time for a change,” he said, noting that he enjoys the quiet of working a night shift and that likes to see the offices look spotless when he leaves at

about 1am. He spends most of his spare time with family, but says that in the past he used to like playing bass guitar in various bands. One of his last bands was called 'Starfire,' which played American and Latin soft rock.

"I like what I do," Da Rosa says. "And I like that people know my name. It's just important to always do the best you can do."

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 Thursday, October 19, 2023** from **10am to 3pm** at 705 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, RI.

We're currently hiring for the following positions:

- 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.



The advertisement features the RIPTA logo at the top, which includes the text 'RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY'. Below the logo, the main headline reads 'Ready to Drive Your Career Forward?'. To the right of the text is a photograph of a smiling man in a light-colored uniform. A list of benefits is presented in a bulleted format:

- Variety of Career Paths
- Supportive & Growth-Oriented Culture
- Stable & Secure Employment
- Outstanding Benefits

At the bottom of the advertisement, there is a blue button with the text 'Now Hiring'.

RIPTA Photo ID Bus Pass Road Trips

RIPTA's Photo Identification staff will travel to communities throughout the state to provide bus passes to 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 locations:

PAWTUCKET

Wednesday, October 4 • 10am - 12pm
Leon Mathieu Senior Center
420 Main Street

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

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).

DETOURS

Gloria Gemma 5K: Sunday, October 1

Routes 1, 17, 30, 33, 34, 35, 50, 51, 55, 56, 54, 57, 60, 72, 78, 92, R-Line will be detoured throughout the day. Memorial Boulevard to South Water Street will be closed during this time.

Columbus Day Festival: Friday, October 6 - Monday, October 9

Route 92 will be on detour from 1 pm, Friday, Oct. 6, 2023, through 11pm Monday, Oct. 9.

Woonsocket Columbus Day Festival: Monday, October 9

Routes 54 and 87 will be on detour from 9am to 11:30am.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk: Sunday, October 15

Routes 1, 3, 4, 17, 19, 21, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 50, 55, 78, 92 and will be

detoured from 8:15AM to 1:30PM. Routes 27, 28, 56, 57, 60 and 66 will be detoured from the first trip of the day until 1:30PM. Bus Stops X, V, W, and Y will be temporarily relocated to Washington and Fulton Streets. Memorial Boulevard will be closed from Steeple Street to South Water Street during this time.

Monster Dash 5K: Sunday, October 29

Routes 1, 33, 34, 35, 60 and 78 from 8:30am to 11:30am.

Visit [RIPTA.com/alerts](https://ripta.com/alerts) for details on upcoming detours.



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