

GREATER METRO TRANSIT STUDY – GROWING OUR TRANSIT SYSTEM INITIATE RAPID BUS SERVICE

Rapid Bus is a complete rapid transit system that combines the quality of other modes of transit with the flexibility of buses. RIPTA's first Rapid Bus corridor will use intelligent transportation system (ITS) technology, cleaner and quieter hybrid buses, enhanced passenger amenities and integrated land use policy to provide new transportation options for highly traveled corridors.



RIPTA will introduce Rapid Bus, a new service that will provide uniquely branded vehicles with frequent service and added amenities at stops to significantly improve the speed and attractiveness of bus service.

GET TO WHERE YOU ARE GOING FASTER

Rapid Bus provides frequent, reliable and comfortable transit service in high density activity centers. Two RIPTA routes, the 11 Broad Street and the 99 North Main/Pawtucket, serve over 10,000 riders a day. Implementation of one Rapid Bus service that connects these two lines will make ridership more convenient for existing customers and encourage new ones as well. By linking to transit hubs on Capitol Hill and the Hospital District and future street car lines, this system will reinforce new improvements in RIPTA services. It will also support the City of Providence's efforts to improve commercial corridors in the city, beginning with Broad and North Main Streets. Rapid Bus service will also be expanded to other promising routes in the future to provide a higher level of service to even more riders.



Rapid Bus offers the opportunity to enhance existing bus service to provide faster and more reliable service, a higher level of passenger comfort and amenities, and a distinctive service identity. Rapid Bus transit enhancements include: frequent service, simple routes, limited stops, queue jump lanes, unique identities, distinctive stop facilities, specially branded vehicles, transit signal priority, and real-time arrival information. These features work together to make service fast, reliable, convenient, comfortable and clearly identifiable— characteristics all associated with rail or Bus Rapid Transit service but without the major capital investment and in locations where dedicated lanes are not possible.



PROPOSED RAPID BUS ROUTES



The Routes 11 and 99 carry 10,000 passengers a day. The new Rapid Bus route would link them through downtown Providence.

Rapid Bus creates rail-like public transit service along RIPTA's busiest routes.



Begin Engineering, Planning and Design



Begin Bus Stop Improvement Plans

Continue Detailed Engineering Design



Begin Construction of Infrastructure

Coordinate with Community on Design of Amenities



Continue Construction

Finalize Operations Plan



Market and Initiate Service

Pursue Rapid Bus on Other Promising Routes