

GREATER METRO TRANSIT STUDY – MEETING CURRENT NEEDS PROVIDE ADDITIONAL BUS SERVICE

Today, with additional resources, high ridership routes in the RIPTA system could benefit from more service. Other routes could add service during evenings and weekends, some routes could be extended and possibly, new routes could be developed.



RIPTA will improve its existing transit service by simply providing more buses, more often. This cost-effective proposal will increase bus frequency and expand off-peak service on existing routes to key urban areas and institutions so that buses are available when and where they are most needed.

HAVING BUSES THERE WHEN YOU NEED THEM

To use the bus system, riders must know that they can catch a bus when they want to. RIPTA can build on its existing capability and meet ridership demands today by including more frequent service on existing routes, longer spans of service during evening and weekend hours, extensions of existing routes, and possibly the development of new routes. To meet this demand and make the bus system more available and reliable, RIPTA aims to provide a ten percent increase to existing bus service to strengthen corridors that already enjoy high ridership and levels of service, such as Chalkstone Boulevard, Cranston Street, Elmwood Avenue, Hope Street and Manton Avenue. These urban corridors are areas with increased transit need or key destinations, including healthcare facilities, colleges and universities, shopping centers and employment centers. Further enhancing these corridors will help to establish the ridership necessary to support future initiatives, such as “Rapid Bus” projects.



In order to offer expansions of service where they are most needed throughout the state, RIPTA plans to conduct a service analysis to identify potential improvements to routes and services throughout the state, determine how to provide the most cost-effective service possible, and develop a plan to prioritize the expansion of service as finances permit.



EXISTING HIGH-USE ROUTES



RIPTA currently offers nine high-use bus routes in the Providence metro area that serve Olneyville, Cranston, Pawtucket and Warwick.

Expanding RIPTA's existing bus service is a direct way to increase convenience and enhance rider satisfaction.



Increase funds to expand RIPTA's bus fleet and operations



Update statewide service standards

Conduct statewide public process
Complete strategic service planning effort



Prioritize and implement service expansion as funding permits.



Continue implementation of Service Changes



Continue implementation of Service Changes