



# MOVE NEW HAVEN

## Transit Mobility Study

RIPTA provides transit service throughout the state and the City of Providence for a population of more than one million.

### RIPTA IN PROVIDENCE

About  $\frac{3}{4}$  (or 40) of RIPTA's fixed-bus routes serve Providence with the focal point at Kennedy Plaza in Providence's downtown business district. Kennedy Plaza is a transfer hub that serves about 20,000 RIPTA riders each day and is less than a  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile walk to Providence's MBTA/Amtrak commuter and intercity rail station.

## Linking Communities and Improving Transit Service Delivery

RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY (RIPTA) | PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

### APPLICABILITY TO THE GREATER NEW HAVEN REGION

- Both systems have a downtown transit hub as the focal point
- Both have Universities/Colleges with individual shuttle systems as well as students that use transit
- Providence is a city with similar land area, median household income and poverty rates
- Comparable oversight of transit by the state
- Similar linkages to Amtrak and commuter rail

### WHAT CAN GREATER NEW HAVEN LEARN FROM RIPTA?

#### Improve Access to Jobs and Communities

RIPTA initiated a 2012 Comprehensive Operational Analysis to re-evaluate the transit system based on where people currently live and work, as well as bus performance. As a result of the analysis, new route types, new routes and express services, scheduling improvements, modified route alignments, frequency changes, and the discontinuation of certain routes and route segments were recommended.

#### Serve New Locations and Support Downtown Revitalization

Due to increased ridership, and operational and passenger experience challenges at Kennedy Plaza, RIPTA is conducting a Downtown Transit 2.0 Study to assess whether additional downtown Providence transit stations and transit emphasis corridors could improve service for riders. The purpose of this effort is to serve new locations, better distribute volumes of bus traffic within Providence's downtown core, and meet the City's community development goals. These goals include revitalization of the Kennedy Plaza/Burnside Park area, better connections to Providence MBTA/Amtrak station, and to cater to desired development efforts on vacant parcels in the Providence Station area and Jewelry District.

#### Faster Service

RIPTA's R-Line bus route connects Pawtucket and South Providence to downtown Providence with uniquely branded stops, Transit Signal Priority, Art in Transit bus shelters, frequent service, and uniquely branded buses to improve speed, on-time performance, and attractiveness of bus service. The capital cost for the project was funded by FTA, cities of Providence and Pawtucket, and RIPTA.

### **Link with Universities/Colleges**

Students and staff at Brown University, Rhode Island School of Design and the Community College of Rhode Island partnered with RIPTA's University Pass Program (UPASS) to provide unlimited free or half-priced bus access with their school ID. Each of these institutions (and others) also provide their own complimentary shuttle bus system.

### **Increase Choice Riders**

RIPTA provides an unlimited annual transit pass (ECO-PASS) discount for employers interested in providing a reduced cost transit benefit to employees.