RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Thursday, August 20, 2026
1:30 p.m.
269 Melrose Street, Providence
Transportation Board Room

The link to view the meeting is below*:

RIPTA Board of Directors August 20, 2026

AGENDA

1.	Board Approval/ Potential Vote:	To consider for approval the Draft Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of June 25, 2026.
2.	Board Approval/ Potential Vote	To consider for approval the Draft Executive Session Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of June 25, 2026.
3.	Public Comment	Limited to three minutes per person.
4.	Board Discussion	CEO Report.
5.	Board Discussion / Potential Vote:	To consider for approval a Change Order regarding the 705 Parking Deck Contract.
6.	Board Discussion / Potential Vote:	To consider for approval the Public Transit Authority Safety Plan.
7.	Board Discussion / Potential Vote:	To consider for approval the award of a contract for towing services.

By a majority vote, a public body may amend its agenda to add items. The additional items shall be for informational purposes only and may not be voted on except when necessary to address an unexpected occurrence requiring immediate action or to refer the matter to an appropriate committee pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-6(b).

Copies of Meeting Minutes may be obtained pursuant to RIPTA's public records policy, which is available at https://www.ripta.com/public-records-request/. Meeting minutes are also available at www.ripta.com.

An interpreter for the deaf and hard of hearing can be provided by calling 784-9500 x1171 at least 48 hours in advance. The location is accessible to the handicapped.

*The above link is for convenience purposes only. Participation in the meeting must be in person.

8.	Board Discussion Potential Vote:	To consider for approval the Design Phase of the Providence Transit Center.
9.	Board Discussion	Board Questions and Answers
10.	Adjournment:	

This Agenda was posted on August 18, 2026.

By a majority vote, a public body may amend its agenda to add items. The additional items shall be for informational purposes only and may not be voted on except when necessary to address an unexpected occurrence requiring immediate action or to refer the matter to an appropriate committee pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-6(b).

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RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 25, 2026
1:30 p.m.
269 Melrose Street, Providence
Transportation Board Room

Members Present: Patrick Crowley, Board Chair; James Leach, Board Vice-Chair; Normand Benoit, Board Treasurer; Bernard Georges, Board Secretary; Robert Rocchio; Heather Schey, Vincent Masino, and Kevin Crawley.

Absent Members: None.

Also Present: Christopher Durand, CEO; Ed Pare, Esq., Board Counsel; Jacqueline Weidinger, Executive Assistant to CEO; members of RIPTA staff; and members of the public.

Call to Order: Mr. Rocchio calls the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m., indicating that a quorum was present.

Agenda Item 1: Election of Officers

Mr. Rocchio calls for a nomination for the Board Chair position. Mr. Masino makes a motion to elect Mr. Crowley. Mr. Leach seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes from Mr. Crowley, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Georges, Mr. Rocchio, Ms. Schey and Mr. Crawley.

Mr. Crowley assumes control of the meeting as new Board Chair.

Mr. Crowley calls for a nomination for the Board Vice-Chair position. Mr. Benoit makes a motion to elect Mr. Leach. Mr. Masino seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes from Mr. Crowley, Mr. Leach, Mr. Georges, Mr. Rocchio, Ms. Schey and Mr. Crawley.

Mr. Crowley calls for a nomination for the Board Treasurer position. Mr. Leach makes a motion to elect Mr. Benoit. Ms. Schey seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes from Mr. Crowley, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Georges, Mr. Rocchio, Mr. Masino and Mr. Crawley.

Mr. Crowley calls for a nomination for the Board Secretary position. Mr. Leach makes a motion to elect Mr. Georges. Mr. Masino seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes from Mr. Crowley, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Georges, Mr. Rocchio, Ms. Schey, and Mr. Crawley.

Agenda Item 2: Approval of the Draft Meeting Minutes of April 30, 2026

Mr. Leach makes a motion to approve. Mr. Masino seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes from Mr. Crowley, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Georges, Mr. Rocchio, Ms. Schey, and Mr. Crawley.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of the Draft Executive Session Meeting Minutes of April 30, 2026

Mr. Leach makes a motion to approve. Mr. Masino seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes from Mr. Crowley, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Georges, Mr. Rocchio, Ms. Schey, and Mr. Crawley.

Agenda Item 4: Approval of the Draft Meeting Minutes of May 20, 2026

Mr. Leach makes a motion to approve. Mr. Masino seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes from Mr. Crowley, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Georges, Mr. Rocchio, Ms. Schey, and Mr. Crawley.

Agenda Item 5: Approval of the Draft Executive Session Meeting Minutes of May 20, 2026

Mr. Leach makes a motion to approve. Mr. Masino seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes from Mr. Crowley, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Georges, Mr. Rocchio, Ms. Schey, and Mr. Crawley.

Agenda Item 6: Public Comment

Daria Phoebe Brashear – States that there is good news after the last legislative session but it is not clear as to how much is needed to fully restore service.

Randall Rose – Mentions the recent rally regarding the movement of the transit center out of Kennedy Plaza. Is concerned about the Governor's service cuts states that buses are overcrowded and passengers are passed by as a result. States that the budget did not allow for service restoration. Requests that digital displays show detours to alert riders.

Walter Melillo – Congratulates the newly elected Board Officers. States that the Union will continue to work with RIPTA and advocate for its employees and the public.

Agenda Item 7: CEO Update

Mr. Durand congratulates the newly elected Board Officers; welcomes Mr. Crawley to the Board; thanks Mr. Rocchio for his tenure as Chair; thanks Ms. Reyes for her service to the Board; and advises of Mr. Lombardi's resignation from the Board and thanks him for his service.

Mr. Durand provides an update regarding Legislative Initiatives as well as a CEO Update, Key Initiatives, Employee Spotlight, Monthly Ridership, On Time Performance, Lost Service, Budget and Safety Events.

Agenda Item 8. Tire Lease Contract Approval

John Chadwick, Chief of Administration, presents the request to award Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations LLC the tire lease contract.

Mr. Leach makes a motion to approve the request. Mr. Schey seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Crowley, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Georges, Mr. Rocchio, Mr. Masino and Mr. Crawley.

Agenda Item 9: Executive Session:

Executive Session to consider, discuss and act upon such matters as may be closed to the public pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation and § 42-46-5(a)(3) Discussion regarding the matter of security including, but not limited to, the deployment of security personnel or devices.

Mr. Leach makes a motion to enter into executive session. Ms. Schey seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes from Mr. Crowley, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Georges, Mr. Rocchio, Mr. Masino and Mr. Crawley.

The Board and Counsel enter into Executive Session at 2:04 p.m.

The Board and Counsel enter public session at 2:45 p.m.

Attorney Fragomeni reports that one vote was taken during Executive Session, a vote to adjourn Executive Session.

Mr. Masino makes a motion to Seal the Minutes of the Executive Session. Ms. Schey seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes from Mr. Crowley, Mr. Leach, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Georges, Mr. Rocchio, and Mr. Crawley.

Agenda Item 10: **Board Questions and Answers**

None.

No votes taken.

Agenda Item 11: **Adjournment – 2:47 p.m.**

Mr. Masino makes a motion to adjourn. Ms. Schey seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Crowley, Mr. Leach, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Georges, Mr. Rocchio and Mr. Crawley.

Respectfully submitted,

____

Bernard Georges, Secretary

RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY STAFF SUMMARY FORM

TO:	RIPTA Board of Directors	DATE:	08/05/2026
PREPARED BY:	Jack Plouffe	DEPARTMENT:	Project Management

TITLE : 26 14 GPDECK Paratransit Roof Traffic Coating Change Order

RIPTA's Board of Directors is requested to approve a change order to install a protective traffic coating system in the amount of $566,000.00 as part of the Renovations of the Rooftop Parking Deck at 705 Elmwood Ave, Providence.

BACKGROUND

The parking deck renovation project is currently under renovations and has included concrete repairs, joint rehabilitation, and other necessary improvements to extend the service life of the facility.

As part of the final phase of the project, a durable vehicular traffic coating system is beneficial to protect the repaired concrete surfaces from moisture intrusion, chlorides, abrasion, and vehicular wear.

Staff has evaluated available traffic coating systems and recommends the installation of the Sikalastic-720 polyurethane base coat with the Sikalastic-745 aliphatic polyurethane top coat. This system is specifically designed for parking structures and provides a seamless waterproofing membrane with a durable, UV-resistant wearing surface suitable for long-term vehicular traffic. Applying the traffic coating at this stage of the renovation will complete the rehabilitation project and provide long-term protection for the Authority's investment.

JUSTIFICATION

The Sikalastic 720 base coat with Sikalastic-745 top coat provides a durable, waterproof, and slip-resistant surface that protects the parking deck from moisture, deicing salts, and vehicular wear. By preventing water and chloride intrusion, the system helps reduce concrete deterioration and reinforcing steel corrosion, extending the service life of the deck.
With proper maintenance, the traffic coating is expected to provide approximately 10 to 15 years of service before re-coating is required and can help extend the life of the concrete structure by 20 years or more.
The coating also complements the existing Hydrotech waterproofing system beneath the slab by reducing moisture infiltration, helping preserve the waterproofing membrane and protecting the Authority's investment.

The recommended Sika system is widely used on municipal and commercial parking structures and represents a proven, cost-effective solution for extending the useful life of the parking deck while protecting the Authority's investment.

RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY STAFF SUMMARY FORM

TO:	RIPTA Board of Directors	**DATE:**	08/05/2026
PREPARED BY:	Jack Plouffe	**DEPARTMENT:**	Project Management

FUNDING

Funding will be 80% federal using Grant 2026-006 Building Rehab and 20% State match.

ALTERNATIVES

Postpone installation of the traffic coating. While this would defer the immediate expenditure, the repaired concrete would remain exposed to moisture, deicing chemicals, and normal vehicular wear, increasing the likelihood of premature deterioration and potentially resulting in higher future maintenance and repair costs.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors approve the use of the Sikalastic 720 polyurethane base coat and Sikalastic-745 aliphatic polyurethane top coat as the traffic coating system for the parking deck renovation project.
The recommended system provides long-term waterproofing and concrete protection, enhances the durability and appearance of the parking deck, and helps maximize the service life of the Authority's investment while reducing future maintenance costs.
Approval of this recommendation will allow staff to complete the renovation project using an industry-proven traffic coating system designed specifically for parking structures.

APPROVALS (shaded Departments must approve all Staff Summaries) Projects between \$5,000 and \$10,000 must have Department Director/AGM. Projects between \$10,000 and \$100,000 must have CEO also. Projects greater than \$100,000 must also have Board of Directors Approval

Department	Initial	Date	Department	Initial	Date
Budget/Finance	[illegible]	08/04/2026	Maintenance/Facility	D	
Customer Service	D		Marketing	D	
Environmental/Safety	D		Planning	D	
Project Management	[illegible]	08/04/2026	Procurement	[illegible]	08/04/2026
Flex/Paratransit	D		Security	D	
Human Resources	D		Training	D	
Inform. Services	D		Transportation	D	
Legal/Risk Mgmt	D		Chief Exec. Officer	[illegible]	08/05/2026

RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY STAFF SUMMARY FORM

TO: Board of Directors | **DATE: August 20, 2026**

PREPARED BY: James G. Pereira | **DEPARTMENT: Joint Safety Committee (JSC)**

TITLE: PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AGENCY SAFETY PLAN (PTASP)

Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) Board of Directors is requested to approve the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) that is required in accordance with 49 C.F.R. Part 673. Each public transit agency that is a recipient or sub-recipient of FTA grant funds must develop safety plans that include the process and procedures necessary for implementing Safety Management System (SMS).

BACKGROUND

The FTA has made changes that are required in each transit agency PTASP. The JSC has redrafted the PTASP to reflect the required changes. Per the Biden Infrastructure Law, The JSC must adopt and vote on the PTASP. The Accountable Executive, (CEO) and Board of Directors are required to sign the plan after approving same.

JUSTIFICATION

RIPTA must certify that it has established a PTASP meeting the requirements under 49 C.F.R. Part 673.11(d).

FUNDING

There is no funding associated with this.

ALTERNATIVES

There is no other alternative, this plan is required by FTA rules.

RECOMMENDATION:

The JSC recommends the Board of Directors approve the plan as presented.

APPROVALS (shaded Departments must approve all Staff Summaries) Projects between $5,000 and $10,000 must have Department Director/AGM. Projects between $10,000 and $100,000 must have CEO also. Projects greater than $100,000 must also have Board of Directors Approval

Department	Initial	Date	Department	Initial	Date
Facilities			Planning		
Finance			Procurement		
Human Resources			Risk Management		
Info. Services			Transportation		
Maintenance			Budget Office		
Marketing			Chief Exec. Officer		

RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY STAFF SUMMARY FORM

TO:	RIPTA Board of Directors	**DATE:**	08/04/2026
PREPARED BY:	John Chadwick	**DEPARTMENT:**	Maintenance

TITLE : 26-20 Towing Services

RIPTA Board of Directors is requested to award a contract to Valley Auto Service & Towing for towing services. Based on historical usage, the average cost for this contract is $160,000 per year based on a 8% annual increase per during the 5-year period of the awarded contract. This is an initial one-year term, with up to four annual renewal options to be exercised at the sole discretion of the Authority.

BACKGROUND

An invitation for bids was issued July 1, 2026. The solicitation was publicly advertised on the RI State Purchasing Website and was sent directly to 10 vendors. On July 23, 2026 three responsive bids were received. It was determined that Valley Auto Service & Towing was the successful vendor.

JUSTIFICATION

Towing services for RIPTA fleet is an essential component to maintain effective operations at the Authority.

RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY

RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY STAFF SUMMARY FORM

TO: RIPTA Board of Directors

DATE: 08/04/2026

PREPARED BY: John Chadwick

DEPARTMENT: Maintenance

FUNDING

Operating Funds

ALTERNATIVES

The only option would be to rebid ,which is not recommended since we have put this out to bid several times over the past 5 years and received similar responses. Towing services are vital to RIPTA's operations.

RECOMMENDATION

Award the contract to Valley Auto Service & Towing

APPROVALS (shaded Departments must approve all Staff Summaries). Projects between $5,000 and $10,000 must have Department Director/AGM. Projects between $10,000 and $100,000 must have CEO also. Projects greater than $100,000 must also have Board of Directors Approval

Department	Initial	Date	Department	Initial	Date
Budget/Finance	D	08/07/2026	Maintenance/Facility		08/06/2026
Customer Service	D		Marketing	D	
Environmental/Safety	D		Planning	D	
Project Management	D		Procurement	D	08/06/2026
Flex/Paratransit	D		Security	D	
Human Resources	D		Training	D	
Inform. Services	D		Transportation	D	
Legal/Risk Mgmt	D		Chief Exec. Officer		08/11/2026

RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY

To: RIPTA Board of Directors

From: Christopher Durand, RIPTA, CEO

Date: August 18, 2026

Subject: Providence Transit Center Project Update

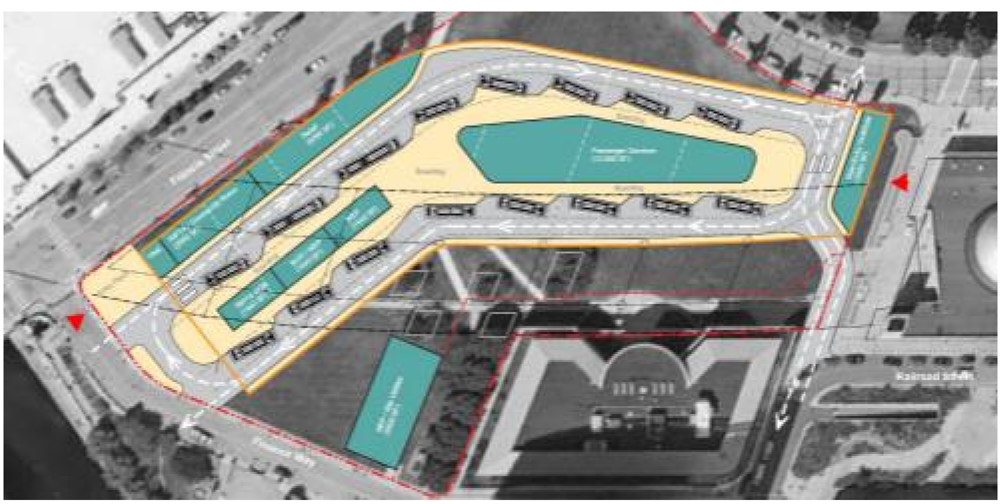
History

In 2023, RIPTA began the process of developing a safer, modern, resilient and reliable transit center that prioritizes passenger needs by facilitating transfers, enhancing safety and security, and improving passenger amenities to accommodate RIPTA's long-range goals of growing our service. At the same time, the center will provide drivers with a safe, clean, accessible area to eat and use the restrooms.

That process consisted of issuing an RFP (January 2023) and awarding a contract to Next Wave Partners (August 2023) to investigate viable site locations. Those site investigations incorporated vigorous public engagement, which included surveys (4, 438 respondents), virtual public meetings (2) and in-person events (6) to inform stakeholders throughout the state and gather their input. We are grateful to the over 5,000 people that provided us with valuable feedback and insights.

At the completion of that investigation, RIPTA identified vacant space within Station Park (to the west of the Providence Train Station) for the construction of this new bus hub, which reflects public requests for multi-modal transportation connections.

Below is a preliminary footprint and traffic pattern.



Current Status

Once the Station Park site was identified, and because part of the site resides over the train tracks, RIPTA and its engineering group (Jacobs Engineering) engaged with Amtrak to conduct a structural analysis of the tunnel to determine whether the proposed project would be feasible.

After extensive inspections over several nights, including structural analysis, the engineering team has confirmed that construction of the transit center over the train tunnel is feasible.

Budget

With the ability to descope the Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) portion of the project from Next Wave's scope and realigning the overall contract to focus on designing and constructing a facility, RIPTA has reduced the total PSA contract cost from $17M to $8M, freeing up nearly $10M in bond proceeds to go towards actual construction of the facility.

The current project estimate is very preliminary at $70M. There will be an affordability process as part of the next phase to ensure project design meets available funding.

RIPTA currently has $77 million committed to the project, reflecting funding secured to-date. A comprehensive cost estimate has not yet been finalized, as the design process has not been completed (next phase).

- $46M – identified in STIP (Page 483)
- $25M – USDOT BUILD Grant
- $6M – state match to BUILD Grant

This is not a final budget or cost estimate. As the project moves forward, funding needs will be assessed based on scope, and additional opportunities may be identified.

Land Acquisition/Property Information

The Station Park parcels being considered are owned by:

- State of Rhode Island
- Amtrak (Penn Central Railroad)

Under Federal Transit Administration guidelines, property acquisition cannot be completed until the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) process has been completed and an environmental determination or decision document has been issued. RIPTA is coordinating with our FTA Regional Office to ensure compliance. The NEPA process will be the responsibility of Next Wave to complete.

Construction Approach

At the end of the modified Preliminary Services Agreement, RIPTA will have a project proposal from Next Wave including a firm fixed price to complete the project. This significantly shifts the financial risk of the project to Next Wave as they must deliver the project as presented under that fixed price.

Next Steps & Timeline

RIPTA will request authorization from its Board of Directors at the August 20th Board meeting to reengage Next Wave Partners to work on the next steps of the project. These next steps would include design, engineering, public engagement and permitting for the new transit center. This work would lead to a final design and project proposal to be brought back to the Board for approval.

Next Wave will be responsible for navigating the federal environmental review with the FTA and for assisting in the coordination with Amtrak including design reviews and construction approvals.

Construction would commence within six months from completion of the preliminary services contract.