



As you are aware, RIPTA announced proposed service changes in February in direct response to the longstanding driver shortage. Last month, we announced that the proposed service changes would not take effect on April 6, 2024. This delay allowed our staff to continue to assess routes and make appropriate changes to mitigate the impact on passengers.

**The newly proposed mitigated service changes require additional public hearings because they are new changes we had not previously presented to the public.** For example, we had initially suggested eliminating Route 23. However, based on public input, we are now proposing to reduce the hours of service on weekdays and Saturdays and eliminate Sunday service only instead. Since this change was not presented during the February hearings, we are legally obliged to conduct new hearings. These new changes primarily affect routes in Providence and Kent counties, hence why we are not holding additional statewide hearings. We will present the final proposed service changes plan to the Board of Directors at the April board meeting.

**Pursuant to Section 39-18-4.2 of the State General Laws, attached is a neighborhood impact statement for the affected route in your area. Public hearings on these proposed service changes are scheduled for April 8 at the Providence Foundation and April 15 at the West Warwick Public Library, both from 12pm to 2pm and 5pm to 7pm. Please visit [RIPTA.com/PublicHearings](https://www.ripta.com/PublicHearings) for more information.**