

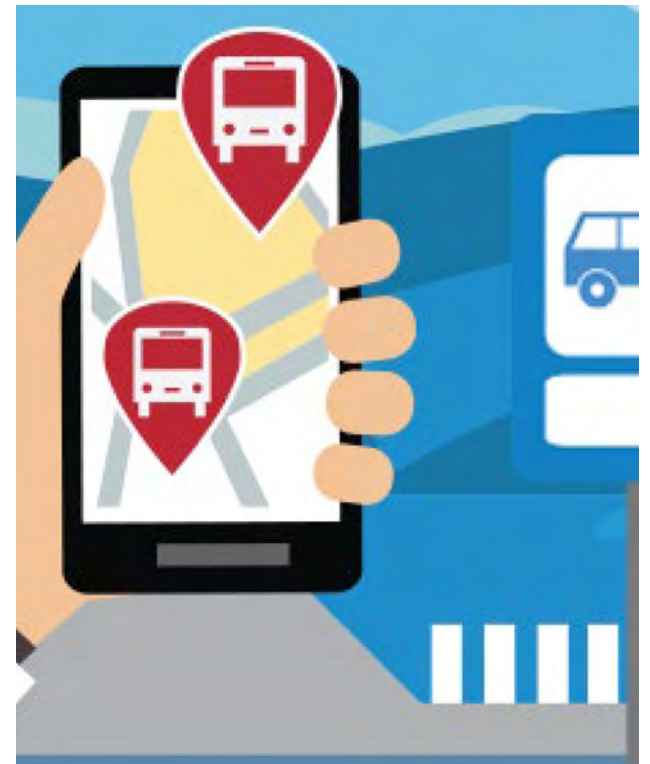


## Initiative 5 Make Transit Easier to Use



In order to improve service for existing transit riders as well as to entice new ones, the full experience of riding transit must be intuitive and seamless. Transit Forward RI proposes a number of ways in which to make transit services easier to use:

- Fare Capping
- Better Information and Signage
- Fare Integration with other regional service providers, such as the MBTA
- Implementation of Mobility as a Service (MaaS) platforms



## Fare Capping/Earn as You Go Will Make Fare Payment Much More Flexible

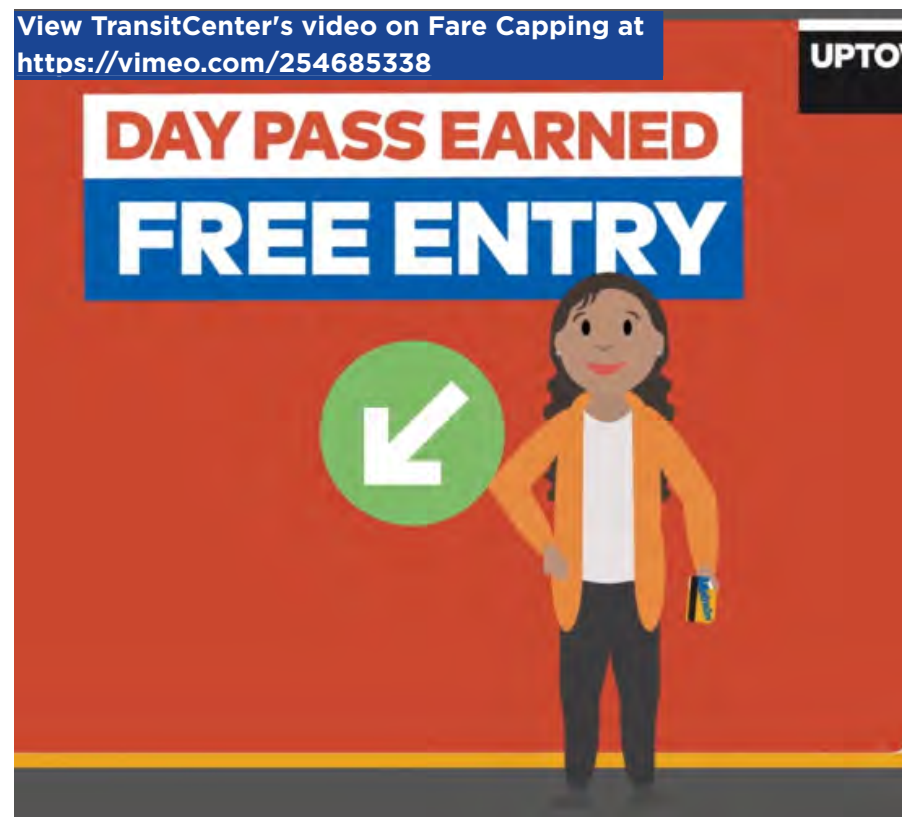
Six different fare options are available for full fare riders, which range from \$2 for a single trip to \$70 for a monthly pass. The monthly pass provides the best value, but requires an upfront payment for low income riders that can often be difficult. In addition, many riders don't have the same travel patterns every day.

RIPTA will soon be introducing smartcard fare payment and fare capping to make fare payment more flexible. With the introduction of smartcard fare payment, RIPTA will also be able to introduce fare capping, which is also known as "Earn as You Go," through which all riders will pay single trip fares up to maximum fare levels for daily, weekly, and monthly use. Earn as You Go will make transit more affordable for lower income riders, provide more flexibility for all riders, and encourage the use of transit on a more spontaneous basis. Although there are still details to be worked out, fare capping will work as follows:

- **All riders will pay single ride fares for all trips with total costs that will max out at daily and monthly pass rates.**
- **On a daily basis and at current fare levels, riders would pay \$2 per trip until they spend \$6 which is the current cost of a daily pass. For the rest of the day, all subsequent rides would be free.**
- **Daily expenditures would also roll up to monthly pass costs. After spending \$6 per day for 11 days and \$4 on the 12th day, all subsequent trips for the rest of the month would be free. Earn as You Go will also be implemented for riders who use discount fares.**

Current Fares		Fares with Fare Capping	
Single Ride	\$2	Single Ride	\$2
Transfer	\$1	Transfer	Free for one hour
1 Day Pass	\$6	1 Day Pass	\$2 per trip for the first three trips. Free for all subsequent trips
7 Day Pass	\$25		-
10 Ride Pass	\$20		-
Monthly Pass	\$70	Monthly Pass	\$6 per day for the first 11 days and \$4 for the 12th day. Free for the rest of the month.

Fare capping is a new concept that is currently being used by DART in Dallas and TriMet in Portland, OR. Outside of the United States, it is used in the following cities: London, Great Britain; Dublin, Ireland; and Sydney, Australia.





## Better Information Will be Provided

RIPTA and RIDOT will provide information in a variety of ways to make transit options easier to understand:

- **A single website for regional transit information. This single website would provide information on services provided by RIPTA, RIDOT, and other available service such as the Providence Line and GATRA services**
- **The provision of schedule and real-time information via websites and smartphone apps**
- **Real-time information at major stations, stops, mobility hubs, and park-and-ride lots**
- **Route information, including schedules and maps, at all busy stops**
- **Wayfinding and local information signage at major stops, stations, and mobility hubs**



## Fares Will be Integrated

Fare integration will enable transit riders to use a single pass to ride services provided by multiple transit providers. Four types of fare integration will be implemented to allow use of:

- **MBTA passes honored on Amtrak trains between Providence and Boston**
- **MBTA passes honored on RIPTA buses**
- **SRTA passes on RIPTA Newport-Fall River-Providence service**
- **RIPTA monthly passes on rail trips between Wickford Junction and Providence**



## Mobility as a Service Will Make All Available Options Easier to Understand and Use

Mobility as a Service (MaaS) integrates various forms of transportation services into a single platform to provide flexibility and convenience for travelers. People frequently make trips using multiple modes - for example, a bus to a downtown station, then bikeshare to their destination, and maybe Lyft back in the evening if the weather is bad. At present, this usually means that travelers must learn about these options from many different sources and pay separately. MaaS provides the ability to plan, book, and pay for different options using a single smartphone app.

MaaS integrates different public and private transportation services into one app, where users can book transportation, pay for it, and understand the multitude of options to travel from point A to point B. Through MaaS, RIPTA could create its own app or partner with an app developer to enable partnerships with private transportation companies to allow subscription transportation service. This subscription would allow passengers to have access to RIPTA-provided transit as well as scootershare and rideshare, for example, all for a fixed cost per month.

It is important to note that MaaS is very much an emerging technology that is still in its infancy. At present, many apps that focus on a single service are starting to provide information on other services. Other efforts are starting from the ground up.

RIPTA can develop MaaS as technology allows, with a focus on the following areas

- **Integration of transit and first mile/last mile connections**
- **Transit schedule and real-time information**
- **Trip planning and booking**
- **Fare payment**

