

RIPTA SERVICE RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WARREN AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) faces a funding crisis, and;

WHEREAS, this funding crisis has forced RIPTA to propose draconian service cuts, including elimination of two weekday round trips from Route 61X (Tiverton/East Bay Park & Ride) and reduced weekday and weekend frequency on the Route 60 (Providence/Newport) bus line from every thirty (30) minutes all day to anywhere between thirty-five (35) and sixty (60) minutes, and;

WHEREAS, these service cuts will have a devastating effect on the historic community of Warren, and;

WHEREAS, Route 61X and Route 60 lines are vital for:

- The many Warren, and East Bay, businesses and corporate headquarters, that depend on them for transit of employees and customers, and
- The transportation of patients, staff, and faculty at Rhode Island's major hospitals, universities, and colleges who live in Warren, and the East Bay area, and who rely on RIPTA, and
- The commercial areas of Warren and the East Bay whose vibrancy depends on their customers taking RIPTA, and
- The residents of Warren and the East Bay who rely on these lines to commute to work,
 and
- The economic growth and vitality of Warren as proposed new residential, commercial, and mixed-use development relies on efficient and effective public transit, and
- The quality of life in Warren and the greater East Bay, which depends on these RIPTA services to manage automobile congestion on our roads particularly with the added traffic congestion caused by the long-term replacement project for the Washington Bridge, and;

WHEREAS, Warren depends on the health and vitality of the broader Rhode Island public transportation system, which also would be devastated by the proposed service reductions, with serious and long-lasting effects on RIPTA's daily riders and the communities served in the region, a significant increase in vehicles on area roadways causing unbearable traffic conditions excessive air pollution, and many fewer jobs in the region with enormous negative economic impact for both state and local governments, and;

WHEREAS, investment in efficient and effective public transit linking Warren and the greater East Bay with the rest of Rhode Island will enhance the economic vitality and growth of local businesses, educational institutions, hospitals, and the quality of life in the region, which in turn benefits the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Council of the Town of Warren hereby RESOLVES to request Governor Daniel J. McKee commit to a reliable, sufficient public funding solution for public transportation in Rhode Island that would avoid the devastating proposed cuts to RIPTA.

Town Council of the Town of Warren

Bv:

Joseph DePasovale, President, Warren Town Council

Data J.

ATTEST:

Sandrea Speroni, Town Clerk