



WHYY NEWS' BRIDGING BLOCKS

“Transforming Public Transportation in the City”

Resource Document

WHYY Articles:

- [Philly leaders say 2026 plans are on track, but SEPTA's funding crisis could derail them](#)
- [Residential properties near SEPTA's shrinking Regional Rail system stand to lose \\$20B in value, report estimates](#)
- [Transit system in 'crisis': SEPTA supporters rally at Philadelphia City Hall against 'death spiral' of proposed service cuts](#)
- [SEPTA Interim GM Scott Sauer | Studio 2 from WHYY | 4/30/2025](#)

SEPTA Safety

- SEPTA Transit Police For 24/7 emergencies, security information or to report a crime on our system
 - 215.580.8111
 - Transit Watch App: Download the app on to discreetly share safety and security issues

SEPTA Senior Fare Program

- For Senior Citizens ages 65 and older, you can travel free on all SEPTA transit routes (bus, trolley, trackless trolley, and Market-Frankford Line, Broad Street Line, and Norristown High Speed Line). They also ride for free on Regional Rail as long as their departure and arrival stations are located in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

SEPTA Zero Fare Program

- Zero Fare supports free SEPTA transit for residents living near or below the poverty level. Eligible Philadelphia residents will be randomly selected to participate through a lottery system, and eligibility is based on income, age, and Philadelphia residency.
 - zerofare@phila.gov
 - (215) 686-4419 (Press 5)

SEPTA K-12 Student Pass Program

- Students in grades 7 through 12 who live 1.5 miles or farther from school are generally eligible for free Student Fare Cards through their school. The cards are good for up to eight trips per school day, between 5:30 am and 8 pm and includes taps for transfers. School Districts determine the travel rights for each card, defining the number of daily trips.



[SEPTA Key Advantage Program](#)

- This universal benefit program offers employers the ability to purchase deeply discounted All-Access Passes for employees. Through Key Advantage, participants receive a discount of over 80% off retail price. This program loads an All-Access Pass, which is valid for travel on all SEPTA services, including all Regional Rail, as well as travel on all Transit modes.

[SEPTA Arts](#)

- SEPTA is proud to participate in several programs centered on the production of artwork and developing its relationship with the world of transit. This program features permanent public art installations on buses, trains, and stations. Tapping into this artistic spirit serves to both add beauty to SEPTA spaces and bring us closer to the community.

[A Guide to SEPTA and Public Transportation in Philly](#)

- SEPTA is the nation's sixth-largest public transportation system — with train, subway, trolley and bus lines serving a 2,200-square-mile region. It provides public transportation to Philadelphia and the Countryside seven days a week, with rides available as frequently as every few minutes, helping residents and visitors navigate their daily schedules and city adventures.

[SEPTA cuts may include a 45% service reduction, 21% rate hike. Will it be prevented?](#)

- SEPTA proposed its fiscal year 2026 operating budget. If passed, it'd include a fare increase of 21.5% and a 45% reduction in service. Cutbacks in the proposed budget involve the elimination of regional rail lines, bus routes, workforce reductions, a 9 p.m. curfew for services, station closures, eliminating service for special events, and a 20% reduction of service to all remaining routes.