



**RHODE ISLAND TURNPIKE AND BRIDGE AUTHORITY**  
**1 East Shore Road**  
**P.O. Box 437**  
**Jamestown, RI 02835**

**Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking**

**AGENCY:** Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority (RITBA)

**REGULATION TITLE:** Concerning Cash and Credit Card Toll Transactions

**RULEMAKING ACTION:** Direct Final Rule. RITBA does not expect the proposed regulation to be controversial. If no formal objection is received on or before Friday, September 25, 2020, the regulation shall take effect on September 25, 2020.

**TYPE OF FILING:** Adoption.

**DATES:** Public Notice Date: Wednesday, August 26, 2020; Comment Period Ends: Friday, September 25, 2020.

**SUMMARY OF PROPOSED RULE:** The proposed rule is intended to provide the public with information regarding the manner in which the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority, in its discretion, may collect tolls by cash or credit card. Specifically, the Authority, in its discretion, may close cash or credit card lanes and direct traffic through E-ZPass lanes, and, in such circumstances, invoice the registered vehicle owner the amount of the toll, minus the administrative fee.

**COMMENTS INVITED:** All interested parties are invited to submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed regulation by Friday, September 25, 2020 to the addresses listed below.

**ADDRESSES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT SUBMISSIONS:**

Mailing Address: Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority  
c/o Marianne Durgin, Rulemaking Coordinator  
1 East Shore Road, P.O. Box 437  
Jamestown, Rhode Island 02835

Email Address: [mdurgin@ritba.org](mailto:mdurgin@ritba.org)

**PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION:**

In accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8, an oral hearing will be granted if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, or by a governmental agency, or by an association having not less than twenty-five (25) members, within ten (10) days of this notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mailing Address: Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority  
c/o Marianne Durgin, Rulemaking Coordinator  
1 East Shore Road, P.O. Box 437  
Jamestown, Rhode Island 02835

Email Address: mdurgin@ritba.org

Phone: (401) 423-1903

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:**

RITBA believes that the proposed rule will not have any impact on societal costs or benefits. A copy of the regulatory analysis follows this Public Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

**Authority for This Rulemaking:** R.I. Gen. Laws § 24-12-37

**Regulatory Findings:**

In the development of the proposed regulation, consideration was given to: (1) alternative approaches; (2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and (3) significant economic impact on small business. No alternative approach, duplication, or overlap was identified based upon available information.



# MEMORANDUM

## **Regulatory Analysis for Proposed Regulation**

This memorandum sets forth the Regulatory Analysis of the Rhode Island Turnpike & Bridge Authority (RITBA) required by R.I. Gen. Laws §42-35-2.9 with respect to the proposed regulation.

This rule provides RITBA with discretion to close certain lanes as deemed necessary. The proposed regulation will provide a benefit to RITBA by providing RITBA with flexibility to address resource needs with regard to lane closures. There is no estimated cost to the public. There is no alternative approach that would satisfy the same goals as the proposed regulation. RITBA has determined that the benefits of the proposed rule justify the costs.

**Attachment  
(proposed regulation)**

855-RICR-10-00-4

## **TITLE 855 – RHODE ISLAND TURNPIKE AND BRIDGE AUTHORITY**

### **CHAPTER 10 – BRIDGES, FACILITIES AND TOLLS**

#### **SUBCHAPTER 00 – N/A**

##### **PART 4 – Concerning Cash and Credit Card Toll Transactions**

### **4.1 Authorization and Purpose**

#### **4.1.1 Authorization for Regulations**

The following Rules and Regulations concerning a change to the cash and credit card toll transactions (“Rules and Regulations”) are promulgated by the Rhode Island Turnpike & Bridge Authority (“Authority”) in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 24-12-37 and § 42-35-2.11.

#### **4.1.2 Purpose**

These Rules and Regulations are intended to provide the public with information regarding the manner in which the Authority, in its discretion, may collect tolls by cash or credit card.

### **4.2 Change Concerning Cash and Credit Card Toll Transactions**

From time to time, including in time of a State of Emergency declared by the Governor pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 30-15-9 or other applicable statute, the Authority may close one (1) or more cash/credit card lanes for any reason. If cash/credit card lanes are closed, then such traffic may be directed through the E-ZPass lanes normally designated for vehicles equipped with E-ZPass transponders, in which case no administrative fee shall be charged, but an invoice for the toll as set at the time of assessment shall be mailed to the registered vehicle owner or the E-ZPass account holder. If the invoiced individual or entity makes timely payment of the toll, as specified in said notice in accordance with the invoice terms, then the invoiced individual or entity will not be deemed a Toll Violator or Toll Evader, as defined in [Part 2](#) of these Regulations, for purposes of the invoiced transaction.