

Rochester Institute of Technology Selects Spring Bird to Bridge Critical Fleet Gap

The second university in New York State to select Spring Bird for transit support, reinforcing the company's role as a trusted partner during OEM fleet delays.

AUSTIN, TX, UNITED STATES, May 26, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Spring Bird, a nationwide leader in high-quality [transit bus sales](#), leasing, and fleet rehabilitation, has delivered a fleet of modern BRT-style New Flyer buses to Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in the State of New York. The delivery—part of a short-term lease agreement—ensures uninterrupted campus transportation while the university awaits new bus deliveries from its original equipment manufacturer (OEM).



Spring Bird delivers New Flyer transit buses to RIT

This marks the second university in New York State to select Spring Bird for interim fleet service, solidifying the company's position as the go-to provider for bridging service gaps during critical vehicle lead times.

“

Spring Bird plays a key role behind the scenes, helping national fleet operators confidently bid on contracts like RIT—knowing we can supply the fleet they need, when they need it.”

Elliott Carson

Meeting Demand When Timing Matters Most

With OEM lead times now stretching beyond 18 months, universities, transit agencies, and private contractors are increasingly challenged to begin operations on time. Whether it's due to procurement delays, manufacturer backlogs, or the transition to low-emission vehicles, the result is the same: a gap between contract award and

actual service readiness.

Spring Bird steps in exactly where others cannot.

“Spring Bird plays a key role behind the scenes, helping national operators confidently bid on contracts like RIT—knowing we can supply the fleet they need, when they need it,” said [Elliott Carson](#), Founder of Spring Bird. “With OEM lead times pushing 18 months or more, we fill that critical gap so these contractors can deliver on day one. Without that support, many simply couldn’t compete.”

Spring Bird’s lease fleet allows national vendors—especially those entering new contracts—to begin operations immediately, with clean, fully equipped buses that meet the expectations of both clients and riders.

Designed for Campus Life, Built for Real-World Transit

The New Flyer buses delivered to RIT are configured specifically for high-frequency campus service. Outfitted with front-mounted bike racks, advanced LED destination signs, and the latest onboard technology, the buses blend durability with passenger comfort. The deployment ensures a seamless experience for students, faculty, and staff as they navigate RIT’s busy campus.

The service will operate on RIT’s standard route network and is managed by a new transit provider—one of several national firms increasingly relying on Spring Bird’s turnkey fleet availability to execute new contracts without delay.

Strategic Advantage for Operators and Universities

Spring Bird’s role goes far beyond just delivering buses. The company has become a strategic partner for operators bidding on competitive contracts, especially in sectors like higher education where reliability, appearance, and timing are everything.

“Universities don’t stop because a manufacturer can’t deliver quickly. Spring Bird ensures our partners can stay on schedule and maintain credibility with the institutions they serve,” Carson added. “We’ve created a model that gives them the freedom to say yes to big contracts—without waiting a year and a half for buses to show up.”

This agility gives national and regional contractors a critical edge in RFP processes, where fast deployment and operational readiness often determine contract success.

A Growing Footprint in New York State

With the RIT partnership, Spring Bird strengthens its presence across New York, marking its second university client in the state and expanding its portfolio of higher-ed transportation partners. The company’s rapid-response leasing model is quickly gaining traction across the Northeast, where universities face increasing pressure to modernize fleets, reduce emissions, and meet the evolving expectations of students and administration alike.

Carrying Forward a Legacy of Transit Excellence

Founded in 2020 by Elliott Carson, Spring Bird continues a family legacy that began with Dean Carson in 1943, when he launched Cross Town Lines in Los Angeles. From transporting athletes during the Olympic Games to pioneering multi-agency transit solutions across California, the Carson family name has long been associated with quality, innovation, and service.

Today, Spring Bird builds on that foundation—offering cities, universities, and transit contractors more than just buses. It delivers peace of mind, operational readiness, and a competitive advantage when it matters most.

As the preferred vendor for bridging fleet gaps, Spring Bird continues to empower national contractors and institutions to launch transit services without delay—no matter the complexity of the project timeline.

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