



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BankRI Breaks Ground, Construction of New Middletown Branch to Begin**  
*Expected to open this fall, Bank's expansion into East Bay represents 20<sup>th</sup> branch location*

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** – With permits in-hand following a comprehensive planning process in collaboration with the Town of Middletown, **Bank Rhode Island (BankRI)** has broken ground for its newest branch at 132 East Main Road in Middletown with the demolition of the site's old building and will soon begin construction.

The branch, expected to open in the fall, represents BankRI's expansion into East Bay and its twentieth branch in Rhode Island. Its design has been developed by Brown Lindquist Fenuccio & Raber Architects, Inc. to integrate seamlessly with the unique characteristics of Middletown, and construction will be managed by SPS Construction.

"We are counting down the days until we open the doors to our Middletown branch and have a presence in East Bay that will allow us to provide new banking conveniences to existing and potential customers," said Mark J. Meiklejohn, President and CEO of BankRI. "Though we've yet to open, we already feel embraced by the town and community leaders—this is an exciting time for BankRI and we look forward to serving an area where we see a lot of opportunity for growth and support of local business."

Once completed, BankRI's Middletown branch will be a 1,800 square foot facility that includes private commercial lending offices, space dedicated to housing BankRI retail and business financial specialists, and conference rooms. At the branch, customers will have access to BankRI's full line of personal and business banking products and services, along with a 24-hour walk up ATM and night depository.

The new Middletown branch will also feature the introduction of cash recycler machines at each teller window. The addition of cash recycler machines will increase the efficiency of teller transactions and reduce the time for business deposits with a high number of items by up to 50 percent.

**About Bank Rhode Island**

Bank Rhode Island, a wholly owned subsidiary of Brookline Bancorp, Inc. (NASDAQ:BRKL), is a full-service, FDIC-insured financial institution headquartered in Providence, Rhode Island. The bank operates 19 branches and more than 55 ATMs throughout Providence, Kent and Washington Counties. For more information, visit [www.BANKRHODEISLAND.com](http://www.BANKRHODEISLAND.com). You can also find BankRI on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/BankRhodeIsland](http://www.Facebook.com/BankRhodeIsland).

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