



Contact
Gunnar Olson
Public Affairs Manager
Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority
golson@ridedart.com
515-283-5008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, July 23, 2013

Public invited to informational sessions on service changes and expansion

What: The public is invited to a series of seven informational sessions starting Monday, July 29, to learn about the planned changes to and expansion of bus service by the Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART).

Why: DART is adding service to the redesigned and expanded network of bus routes that went into effect in November 2012 as part of the DART Forward 2035 Services Plan, a long-range plan for expanding public transit throughout Greater Des Moines. The following changes and expansions will be made effective Sunday, Aug. 18:

- **NEW ROUTE** – A new Merle Hay Crosstown Route 51 will begin operating Mondays through Fridays between downtown Des Moines and Merle Hay Mall.
- **MORE FREQUENT SERVICE** – Additional trips will be added to Route 11, Route 60 and Altoona Express Route 99.
- **NEW NIGHT SERVICES** – Two routes serving Des Moines' east side and Altoona will be added to the lineup of night services. The Des Moines On Call, which was designed to serve that area at night, will be retired as a result.
- **LATER WEEKDAY HOURS** – Weekday night service will be extended by one hour Mondays through Fridays to approximately 11:30 p.m.
- **EARLIER AND LATER WEEKEND HOURS** – Saturday service will be extended one hour earlier and five hours later, while Sunday service will be extended one hour later.

Meetings: Each session will include a presentation on the service changes, as well as a question-and-answer session with DART staff members. Participants will also have the opportunity to help test DART's soon-to-launch online trip planner and provide feedback to staff.

MONDAY, JULY 29

- 6:30 – 8 p.m., Jordan Creek Town Center, Community Room (near entrance by movie theater), 101 Jordan Creek Parkway, West Des Moines

TUESDAY, JULY 30

- Noon – 1:30 p.m., DART Central Station, Multimodal Room, 620 Cherry Street, Des Moines
- 4:30 – 6 p.m., Merle Hay Mall, Mall Tower Meeting Room (second floor), 3850 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

- 4 – 5 :30 p.m., DART Central Station, Multimodal Room, 620 Cherry Street, Des Moines
- 6 – 8 p.m., Southridge Mall, Suite 75 (in the plaza near Target), 1111 E. Army Post Road, Des Moines

THURSDAY, AUG. 1

- Noon – 1:30 p.m., DART Central Station, Multimodal Room, 620 Cherry Street, Des Moines
- 4 – 6 p.m., East Side Library, 2559 Hubbell Avenue, Des Moines

Services: Language, visual, hearing and transportation services are available for meetings upon request. For requests, please call DART at 515-283-8100 with as much advanced notice as possible.