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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Riders Advised to Prepare for First Phase of Major Service Changes

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) advises riders to prepare for the major service changes that take effect Sunday, June 10. The changes will affect Express Routes, On Call services and the D-Line Downtown Shuttle. DART staff members will be at the major transfer locations downtown on Monday and Tuesday to assist customers. Most local bus routes will be unaffected in June. Three groups of riders will be most affected:

Express Route Commuters: Several significant changes are planned for Express Routes, which are limited-stop commuter trips between the suburbs and downtown. Several routes will be significantly rerouted, including Routes 91 and 92. Riders along Lower Beaver Road will now be served by Route 6. One route, Route 90, is being discontinued; riders to the Airport South Business Park will now be served by Route 8. The downtown routing is changing for all Express Routes, which will travel predominantly on Grand Avenue and Locust Street and no longer on Walnut Street.

Capitol Hill Employees: Express Routes will stop providing direct service between downtown and the Capitol Complex. That connection will now be made by the D-Line Downtown Shuttle, a free-to-ride downtown shuttle that will operate on Grand Avenue and Locust Street between 17th Street in the Western Gateway to East 12th Street on the east side of the Capitol. A third bus is being added to the shuttle service all day to help meet the increased demand.

Suburban On Call Riders: On Call services in Clive, Urbandale and West Des Moines are all changing significantly. The Clive On Call is being replaced with the Route 92 Hickman Express. The Urbandale On Call (Zones 1-4) is being replaced with the new Urbandale / Windsor Heights Flex Route 73. The West Des Moines On Call is being replaced with the new West Des Moines / Clive Flex Route 72.

The June service change is the first of two phases of implementing the Year 1 recommendations of the DART Forward Services Plan, which is a plan for expanding service throughout Greater Des Moines, including a 13 percent increase in overall service in 2012. A second phase of service changes affecting local routes will occur in November to coincide with the opening of DART Central Station, which is under construction at 620 Cherry Street in downtown Des Moines.

Riders are encouraged to research these changes. Detailed information including new schedules with route maps is available online at www.ridedart.com/june-2012-service-changes.cfm. Printed schedules will be available starting this weekend at DART's pass sales outlets, including Dahl's, HyVee and Walmart locations. Riders with any questions about the service changes are encouraged to call DART Customer Service at 515-283-8100.

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority is the public transportation provider that serves Polk County. DART operates a family of transportation services that makes getting around the Greater Des Moines area easier and more convenient. For more information about DART services, schedules, route changes, or directions to the nearest DART stop, visit our website at www.ridedart.com or call 515.283.8100. The D-Line is funded in part by the Downtown Community Alliance.