

**2023 Public Input on Possible Bus Service Cuts in Des Moines**

Stakeholder Toolkit

**Communications Timing:** Valid for use between Nov. 15 – Dec. 15, 2023.

**Social Media Posts – Facebook:**

**Post #1:**

The Des Moines City Council is considering whether to pay more to maintain DART’s existing bus services or make cuts to services. Without additional revenue, DART will have to cut bus services in Des Moines by up to 40% over the next five years. Initial service cuts would begin in November 2024 and would affect nearly all bus routes. Learn more and weigh in by attending a public meeting and taking a survey: [ridedart.com/service-cuts](https://ridedart.com/service-cuts)

**Post #2:**

DART will hold several public meetings in November and December to gather feedback on possible major bus service cuts in Des Moines. We know service cuts could impact you/our clients/our customers/our residents. Learn more and share your input: [ridedart.com/service-cuts](https://ridedart.com/service-cuts)

**Post #3:**

DART could cut bus services by up to 40% over the next five years without additional funding from the City of Des Moines. The public transit agency needs your/our clients’/our customers’/our residents’ feedback on how possible service cuts would affect you. Please take DART’s survey to learn more and share your input: [ridedart.com/service-cuts](https://ridedart.com/service-cuts)

**Social Media Posts – X:**

**Post #1:**

DART may need to cut bus services by up to 40% without an increase in funding from Des Moines. The cuts would impact nearly all bus routes in the city starting Nov. 2024. @rideDART wants you to attend a public meeting & take a survey to share feedback: [ridedart.com/service-cuts](https://ridedart.com/service-cuts)

**Post #2:**

DART will hold several public meetings in Nov. & Dec. to gather feedback on how possible major bus service cuts could impact riders. We know that could mean you/our clients/our customers/our residents. Mark your calendar & attend an upcoming @rideDART event in Des Moines to learn more: [ridedart.com/service-cuts](https://ridedart.com/service-cuts)

**Post #3:**

DART could cut bus services by 40% over the next 5 years without additional funding from the City of Des Moines. DART needs feedback on how possible bus service cuts in Des Moines would affect you. Take @rideDART’s survey to learn more & share input: [ridedart.com/service-cuts](https://ridedart.com/service-cuts)

**Newsletter/Website Posting - Full:**

**Header:** Give Your Input on Possible Bus Service Cuts in Des Moines

**Body:**

CITY NAME or NEIGHBORHOOD residents/our clients/our employees/our customers are encouraged to share feedback with DART and Des Moines City Council members regarding possible major bus service cuts.

The City of Des Moines is deciding whether to pay more than it can collect in property taxes to keep DART’s existing bus services or make cuts to services. The City of Des Moines could increase its franchise fee — a tax on gas and electric utility bills — by up to 2.5 percent to help fund public transit.

Without additional funding, DART will have to cut bus services by up to 40 percent over five years. Service cuts would begin November 2024 and would affect nearly all bus routes in Des Moines.

DART is seeking input on:

* Would you like more local funding to go to DART in order to avoid cuts to existing bus services?
* How should DART provide bus services with the funding it has?
* How would possible cuts to bus services affect you?

**How to give input**

* **Complete an online survey** at [ridedart.com/service-cuts](https://ridedart.com/service-cuts).
* **Visit DART Customer Service** at DART Central Station to request a paper survey.
* **Attend a public meeting** to learn more and share feedback:
* **Nov. 30, 6-7 p.m.** at Northwest Community Center (Ward 1)
* **Dec. 1, 12-1 p.m.** virtual meeting; login info: [ridedart.com/service-cuts](https://ridedart.com/service-cuts)
* **Dec. 4, 6-7 p.m.** at East Side Library (Ward 2)
* **Dec. 6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.** open house at DART Central Station (2nd Floor)
* **Dec. 7, 6-7 p.m.** at DMPS Kurtz Opportunity Center (Ward 3)
* **Dec. 12, 6-7 p.m.** at Des Moines Area Religious Council (Ward 4)

DART will make every effort to support with language, hearing, visual and transportation needs. For help, call DART Customer Service at 515-283-8100, option 7, at least 72 hours prior to a public input meeting. Anyone who attends a public meeting and completes the survey will receive a free bus pass to use for the entire month of January 2024.

Anyone can participate in the public input. DART community members and riders from throughout the region are encouraged to attend a public meeting to learn about DART’s current funding challenge and options for cutting bus services, if needed, in the City of Des Moines.

Learn more: [**ridedart.com/service-cuts**](https://ridedart.com/service-cuts).

**Newsletter/Website Posting - Short:**

**Header:** Give Your Input on Possible Bus Service Cuts in Des Moines

**Body:**

CITY NAME or NEIGHBORHOOD residents/our clients/our employees/our customers are encouraged to share feedback with DART regarding possible major bus service cuts.

The Des Moines City Council is considering whether to pay more to maintain DART’s existing bus services or make cuts to services. Without additional funding, DART will have to cut bus services in the City of Des Moines by up to 40 percent over the next five years. Initial cuts to bus services would begin in November 2024 and would affect nearly all bus routes in Des Moines.

DART wants to hear how possible cuts to bus services would affect riders and community members throughout the region. Please provide your feedback by joining one of DART’s six public meetings taking place in Nov. and Dec. You can also take DART’s survey to share your input. Learn more at [ridedart.com/service-cuts](https://www.ridedart.com/service-cuts).