



Contact

Erin Hockman
Marketing and Communications Manager
ehockman@ridedart.com
515-499-3069

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Major changes to DART's service begin Sunday, Oct. 13

Largest service change since 2012 realigns resources to meet region's evolving transportation needs

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) will make major changes to its service beginning this Sunday, Oct. 13. DART is realigning resources to ensure existing transit services are provided where they are most needed and can do the most good for our residents and our region. DART is offering FREE rides on all Local, Express and On Call services Oct. 13-19, 2019, to encourage existing and prospective riders to use the new services included as part of this service change.

These changes are a result of comprehensive analysis completed by DART staff along with feedback received from hundreds of riders and community leaders. Because the overall service change is cost-neutral, service with low ridership is being consolidated or eliminated in order to add service in other areas.

This particular service change includes route and/or schedule changes for Routes 3, 8, 10, 11, 14, 52, 72, 73, 74, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 98 and 99. Updated maps and schedules for all affected routes are available at ridedart.com/2019.

Several communities will receive new or expanded service

Flex Connect, a new on-demand service

DART will replace Flex Route 73 with Flex Connect, a one-year pilot program in partnership with private transportation companies to provide a first and last-mile connection to Fixed Route bus service. With Flex Connect, riders in the zone can book an Uber, YellowCabCo. or a DART accessible vehicle to take them to or from one of three transfer points: Gloria Dei Park & Ride, Buccaneer Arena Park & Ride or Merle Hay Mall. From there, riders can connect to DART buses via Routes 5, 14, 16, 50, 92 or 93.

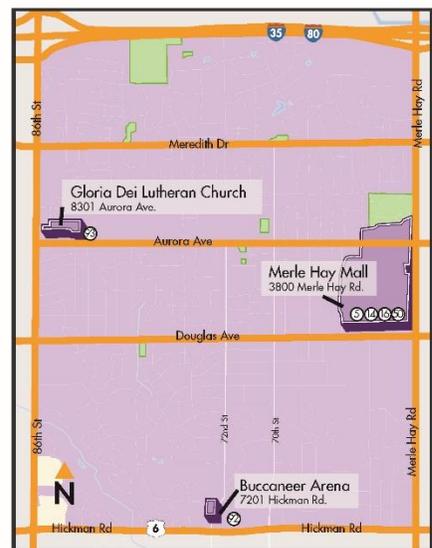
Flex Connect will operate Monday – Friday, from 5:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

To learn more about this service, visit ridedart.com/flexconnect.

DART Flex Connect Zone

LEGEND

- DART Flex Connect Zone
- Transfer Point



Express Route 93 extended to Grimes Walmart

Express Route 93 will extend to the Walmart Park & Ride in Grimes, providing Grimes residents with a one-seat ride into downtown Des Moines. With this extension, the Grimes/NW Johnston shuttle will be discontinued.

Route 11 extended to Deer Ridge Apartments

Local Route 11 will extend to Deer Ridge Apartments, providing residents of the apartment complex and nearby businesses with weekday access to public transit. This service will replace the Deer Ridge shuttle, which will be discontinued.

Flex Routes 72 and 74 to become Local Routes

Flex Routes 72 and 74 will become Local Routes. This will eliminate the Flex Zone that has allowed riders to be picked up or dropped off up to one mile off the route. DART is making this change after analyzing how riders were using the routes and discovering very few riders were utilizing the flex service. This allows DART to extend each route to serve areas that have not had access to public transit to-date. Local Route 72 will now serve destinations along Mills Civic Parkway, including the West Des Moines Public Library, West Des Moines City Hall and the West Des Moines Learning Resource Center. Local Route 74 will now serve businesses along University Blvd. in Clive and Walmart in Windsor Heights.

Ankeny On Call service expanded

DART will use savings found by improving efficiency on Express Route 98 to expand Ankeny's On Call zone to include the southeast corner of Ankeny where Walmart and the Iowa DOT are located. In addition, the hours will be expanded to weekdays from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Other changes

Schedule and or map changes for routes 3, 8, 10, 14, 52, 92, 94, 95, 96, 98, and 99.

Majority of riders should expect changes to how they use DART

Because this is a major change to DART's service, a majority of riders can expect it will impact them. **Full details, including maps and schedules, are now available on ridedart.com/2019.** Printed schedules will be available from customer service at DART Central Station and on DART buses after Wednesday, Oct. 9. All DART Local, Express and On Call services will be free to ride Oct. 13-19, 2019.

FOR MEDIA USE ONLY - Schedules and Maps available for download: To download high-resolution images of the maps and schedules that are part of this service change, click [here](#).

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) is the public transportation provider in and around Polk County. DART operates a family of transportation services that connects thousands of people every day to jobs, school, medical appointments, entertainment and more. For more information about DART services, schedules, route changes, or directions to the nearest DART stop, visit the website at ridedart.com or call 515-283-8100.

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