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Try Transit Week is Oct. 16-22 Ride free on DART Local, Express, Flex and On Call Services

DES MOINES, IOWA—Greater Des Moines residents can ride free on DART buses during Try Transit Week, Sunday, Oct. 16 – Saturday, Oct. 22. DART Local, Express, Flex and On Call service will be free to ride during the week. No pass or cash is required to get on the bus.

"We realize trying the bus for the first time can be intimidating," said DART Chief Engagement and Communications Officer Amanda Wanke. "By removing the barrier of paying for one week, we hope residents will learn how they can use transit in their life and take advantage of the money savings and the commute time to read, chat, email or otherwise relax on the bus."

Those trying transit for the first time can plan their trip online or on their phone.

- Bus schedules and the full DART system map are available at ridedart.com by clicking on "Routes" at the top of the webpage.
- Google Maps has DART's schedule times built into their travel directions. Enter your trip details and click on the transit or bus icon to see DART bus routes and times.
- RideTime is a mobile app to get the the exact arrive time of DART buses using GPS location. Available on Android, Apple or Windows phones.
- Text message "DART" and the bus stop number (example: DART0000) to 64274 to get next bus times of DART buses. Bus stop numbers can be found on DART bus stop poles.

In addition to riding free, residents are asked to go online and give feedback on DART's transportation plan. DART is currently updating its long-range plan, DART Forward 2035, and has put together three plan options for what public transit may look like in the future. The plan options and survey can be found at <u>dartforward2035.com</u>.

For full details about Try Transit Week, visit <u>ridedart.com</u> or contact DART Customer Service at 515-283-8100 or <u>dart@ridedart.com</u>.

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 the website at <u>ridedart.com</u> or call 515-283-8100. The MyDART Tools, Trip Planner and RideTime App are now available at <u>ridedart.com</u>.