

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2020

DART to offer free rides on Election Day

No charge for rides to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 3

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) will offer free rides on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020. Polls will be open in DART's service area from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., but DART will offer free rides throughout its entire service day on all Local, Express and On Call routes.

Riders can reserve a free ride to or from their polling location using DART's Paratransit services as well. These rides must be reserved at least 24 hours in advance by calling 515-283-8136.

Plan your trip

Riders can turn to their county auditor office to identify where their polling location is. Polk County information is available online <u>here</u>.

Once they know where they need to go to vote, riders are encouraged to use the MyDART Trip Planner available on <u>DART's website</u> and through the free MyDART app to learn which transit services they could use to get to their polling location. This information is also available online using Google Maps.

Safety measures

DART has enacted many new safety practices as it has continued to provide service throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Riders should be aware that:

- DART regularly cleans and disinfects all buses and common spaces, including DART Central Station.
- Riders are required to wear a mask on board DART buses and inside the DART Central Station lobby. Masks are available for riders who do not have them on DART buses.
- DART has blocked off seats on buses and in DART Central Station to promote social distancing.
- Sanitizer is provided for riders on buses and in DART Central Station.

We ask all riders to continue following the guidance of local and national health officials by practicing social distancing, wearing masks, washing hands frequently, and staying home and avoid riding DART whenever you feel ill.

DART to the Polls

Free rides will be offered throughout DART's service day, which is from roughly 5 a.m. through approximately 11 p.m., on all Local, Express, Flex and On Call routes. Free rides to or from polling locations on DART Paratransit must be reserved in advance. Polls in Polk County are open between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. Riders can learn more about DART's services, learn which routes operate near them, and plan trips by visiting <u>DART's website</u>. Please direct questions related to DART's service to DART Customer Service <u>via email</u>, or by calling 515-283-8100 option 0.

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) is lowa's largest, and only, regional transit agency, providing service in and around Polk County. DART operates a family of transportation services, providing nearly 4.5 million annual rides that connect thousands of people every day to jobs, school, healthcare and other essential destinations. Twelve member governments make up DART's service area, where the agency carries out its mission to enrich lives, connect communities and expand opportunities for central lowans. For more information about DART services, schedules, route changes, or directions to the nearest DART stop, visit the website at ridedart.com, download the free MyDART app or call 515-283-8100.

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