

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, June 2, 2021

DART changing schedules for select Local and Express Routes on June 6

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) will make changes to several Local and Express Routes on Sunday, June 6. Updates impact Local Routes 1, 6, 7, 11, 13, 15, 17 and 60 and Express Routes 92, 93 and 98. Schedules for all routes can be viewed at <u>ridedart.com/June</u> or from DART Customer Service at DART Central Station.

Frequency restored to Local Routes 6 and 7

In 2020, DART temporarily reduced service on its routes to fit ridership needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. As ridership levels continue to increase, DART will restore how often two of its routes run on weekdays throughout the service day.

Local Route 6 will begin running every 20 minutes before 6 p.m. and will run every 30 minutes between 6 p.m. and the end of the service day. Local Route 7 will begin to have 30-minute service on weekday evenings as part of this service change. In addition, both routes will be adjusted to coordinate better at Southridge Mall, providing a one-seat transfer.

Local Route 17 – Bondurant service

DART will provide more trips on Sundays and will adjust the times the route travels to the Amazon Fulfillment Center in Bondurant on all weekdays. Adjusting the schedule times will better meet the needs of employees using this route to get work at the facility. This route was extended to the fulfillment center in November 2020.

The route travels to the Amazon facility from DART Central Station twice daily (including weekends). The route will also travel from the Amazon facility to DART Central Station three times daily (including weekends).

Schedule changes: Local Routes

DART is adjusting schedules for Local Routes <u>1</u>, <u>11</u>, <u>13</u>, <u>15</u> and <u>60</u> to improve how well routes travel when compared to schedule times, and better meet transfers with other routes. In addition, a morning trip will be added on Local Route 13 as part of this service change. To view schedules, click on the corresponding route numbers above.

Schedule changes: Express Routes

DART is making changes to schedules for Express Routes <u>92</u>, <u>93</u> and <u>98</u> to better serve our riders. This includes adjusting schedule times on Express Route 92, restoring the mid-afternoon trip on Express Route 93, and restoring one additional early morning trip on Express Route 98. To view schedules, click on the corresponding route numbers above.

School service

DART adds select trips on certain Local Routes in the morning or afternoon during the school year. These trips transport DMPS students and staff to school and back. During summer break, DART removes this service from schedules, and will add service back to schedules in August.

COVID-19 safety protocols

Several safety protocols enacted by DART throughout the COVID-19 pandemic remain effective. The TSA requires masks to be worn both indoors and outdoors at DART Central Station and on DART buses. Other measures include:

- Requesting people practice social distancing on buses and at DART facilities;
- The installation of temporary plastic barriers between the fareboxes and the operator's seat on all buses;
- providing hand sanitizer and face masks for riders on the bus;
- daily cleaning and sanitizing of all DART vehicles and facilities with regular disinfecting of hightouch areas throughout the day;
- providing PPE for all employees; and
- requiring employees to complete wellbeing check before work each day, which includes a temperature check.

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) is Iowa'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 Iowans. For more information about DART services, schedules, route changes, or directions to the nearest DART stop, visit the website at <u>ridedart.com</u>, download the free MyDART app or call 515-283-8100.

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