

Pace's Bus on Shoulder Program to Expand

Since Pace's Bus on Shoulder Program began in 2011, ridership on Route 755 and Route 855 have increased dramatically as passengers take advantage of faster, more reliable service between the southwest suburbs and Chicago. Pace is pleased to announce that service will be adjusted and increased on these routes to attract and accommodate additional riders, reduce commute times and reduce overcrowding.

In December, 2012, Pace surveyed customers to investigate what service

changes would maximize positive impacts for the highest number of riders. Many passenger suggestions are included in this plan, which is effective May 6, 2013.

Route 755 will have new morning and evening trips, minor timing adjustments and a new evening trip from Chicago Union Station that will also serve Bolingbrook, Lemont, Lockport and Joliet Union Station upon request.

Route 855 will have new morning and evening trips, as well as a new midday round trip to offer better



flexibility and convenience. New, alternating, evening express trips will provide direct service to I-55 Park-n-Ride locations. Between 4:15pm and 5:45pm, when buses operate every 10-15 minutes, trips will alternate

between destinations to provide a faster ride. Minor adjustments to arrival and departure times of roughly 5-9 minutes will also occur.

For more information and new schedules, please visit PaceBus.com.

New Pace Routes for Commuters Affected by CTA Red Line Closure Begin May 6, 2013

During the CTA Red Line South construction, which is scheduled to begin on Sunday, May 19, 2013, Pace will operate two temporary weekday express routes from Blue Island and Harvey. Passengers will be dropped off at State St. and Roosevelt Rd. in Chicago where they may transfer to the CTA Red/Orange/Green Lines at the Roosevelt Road Station.

Pace Route 924 will operate weekdays only from the Pace Harvey Transportation Center (Harvey TC) where commuters can park their vehicles all day for \$1.50.

Pace Route 925 will operate weekdays only from the Pace Blue Island Park-n-Ride (Blue Island PnR) where commuters can park their vehicles all day, free of charge.

Pace Routes 385, 350, 364, 352,

348, 349 and 354 conveniently connect to the new express routes at the Harvey TC and/or Blue Island PnR.

South suburban residents also have the option of connecting to CTA Route J14 Jeffery Jump thanks to new routing on Pace Route 353. This route begins at the Pace Homewood Park-n-Ride and serves Calumet City, South Holland, Dolton, and Riverdale before connecting with the CTA J14 at the CTA Stony Island / 103rd Garage Terminal. This routing change is permanent.

On May 19, 2013, boarding locations at the CTA Red Line 95th/Dan Ryan Station will change. Pace Route 381 will board/alight passengers on the east side of the bus terminal; Pace

NEW PACE ROUTES continued on back

RTA RIDE FREE PROGRAM UPDATE For Qualifying Seniors and People with Disabilities

Effective July 1, 2012, Illinois Cares Rx was terminated and the Circuit Breaker Property Tax Relief Grant was eliminated due to a lack of funding by the state. A new program, called the Benefit Access Program, has been established to qualify individuals for the following benefits:

- Seniors Ride Free Permit (also referred to as the Seniors Free Transit Ride)
- People with Disabilities Ride Free Permit (also referred to as the Persons with Disabilities Ride Free Transit Ride)
- Secretary of State License Plate Discount

Seniors and people with disabilities who are enrolled in the Illinois Department on Aging's Benefit Access Program are eligible to ride free on Pace, CTA and Metra fixed-route services. To be determined eligible for these benefits, you must submit a Benefit Access Application to the Illinois Department on Aging on the Internet at www.state.il.us/aging. Paper applications are not available.

Introducing Ventra: Pace's and CTA's New Way to Pay

Pace and CTA will soon transition to Ventra™, a convenient new payment system that will let customers use a single fare card for regional transit throughout Chicago and the suburbs. With Ventra, traveling throughout the region will be easier and more efficient than ever before.

Ventra will be available in summer 2013, and will allow customers to pay for rides with the same payment method they use for everyday purchases. Customers can choose from the following contactless payment methods: Ventra Cards, Ventra Tickets for single-ride and 1-day passes, and personal bank-issued debit and credit cards equipped with a contactless chip. Customers will simply “tap” any of these contactless payment cards to quickly board trains and buses.

“We are eager to provide this new convenience to our customers because it modernizes our fare system using the latest technology,” said T.J. Ross, Executive Director of Pace. “Remaining current with emerging payment methods

ensures we’re staying in step with the demands of our customers.”

Pace and CTA will continue to offer special fares and money-saving passes, like the Commuter Club Card and the Campus Connection Pass, and will still accept cash on buses. Customers will also eventually be able to use compatible mobile phones to pay for train and bus rides. The transit agencies retain full control of their fare structures while enabling customers to easily transfer between both services using the same form of payment.

Ventra Cards and fare products will be sold at vending machines in rail stations, and will be made available at up to 2,500 retail locations throughout Chicago and the suburbs. Many of the locations will be within blocks of Pace and CTA bus stops and CTA rail stations.

Ventra will be available to all customers in summer 2013. During the second half of 2013, both new and existing fare media will be accepted, giving



customers plenty of time to use old passes and make the transition to Ventra. In 2014, all CTA and Pace fare media, including the Chicago Card and Chicago Card Plus, will be replaced with Ventra.

Customers are encouraged to visit ventrachicago.com for information and to sign up to receive updates as Pace and CTA implement the new fare payment system.

NEW PACE ROUTES continued from front

Route 352 will board/alight passengers on the west side of the bus terminal; and Pace Routes 353, 359 and 395 will board/alight passengers along Lafayette Avenue. Wayfinding signage and bus stop signs will help guide passengers to the appropriate boarding locations.

Express Service to Popular Destinations; Relax and Leave the Driving To Pace!

Pace operates express bus service to many events and activities in the suburbs and Chicago. Express Services to Popular Destinations (ESPD) let riders relax on a comfortable Pace bus on their way to and from their favorite events. Riders of these express routes get the added bonuses of avoiding cost and hassles of driving in traffic and parking at a major venue.

Exact fare (\$4.00 or \$1.75, depending on the route) is required to board the bus each way. Call Pace's ESPD Line at 847-228-2416 or visit PaceBus.com for departure location addresses and more information.

What's New?

Pace RideShare Launches New Website

Pace has upgraded to a new version of its carpool and vanpool matching website at PaceRideShare.com. New features include improved map displays, social media integration, ability to have multiple commute profiles and much more! Log on to PaceRideshare.com today.

Service	Departure Location(s)	* Free parking
Allstate Arena Express \$1.75	CTA Blue Line Rosemont Station	
Wrigley Field Express \$4.00	Pace Northwest Transportation Center* Yorktown Center in Lombard*	
U.S. Cellular Field Express \$4.00	Pace South Division, Markham Metra SouthWest Service Palos Heights Station (upper level near the station)* Metra SouthWest Service Oak Lawn Metra Station* Pace Old Chicago (Bolingbrook) Park-n-Ride* Pace Burr Ridge Park-n-Ride* Tinley Park Burlington Coat Factory (BCF) - North Lot*	
Toyota Park Express \$1.75	CTA Orange Line Midway Station	
Great America Express \$4.00	Pace Northwest Transportation Center* CTA Blue Line Rosemont Station	
Soldier Field Express \$4.00	Pace Northwest Point - Elk Grove Park-n-Ride* Pace Northwest Transportation Center* Metra SouthWest Service Palos Heights Station (upper level near the station)* Metra SouthWest Service Oak Lawn Metra Station* Pace Old Chicago (Bolingbrook) Park-n-Ride* Pace Burr Ridge Park-n-Ride* Yorktown Center in Lombard*	
NU Ryan Field Express \$4.00	Pace Northwest Transportation Center*	