



SUMMER 2021

ONBOARD
with pace Suburban Bus

Rocky Donahue

Executive Director



As you will see when you read this newsletter, Pace is looking forward to “building back better” after many challenging months.

We’re bringing back many of the routes we had to suspend or reduce service on during the pandemic. Our planners will continue to look at demand for our service and propose additional opportunities to restore or expand service throughout the year. And our strategic vision plan, *Driving Innovation*, will guide us as we look at our system as a whole and plan for the future.

We’re also making progress on many infrastructure projects. New garages, improved passenger facilities, and a stronger system are just around the corner.

While all forms of public transportation can help reduce a community’s carbon emissions, technological developments and new funding opportunities have given us ways to make our system more sustainable. We’re very excited to test electric buses soon and investigate how we can best deploy them to serve our passengers and protect our environment.

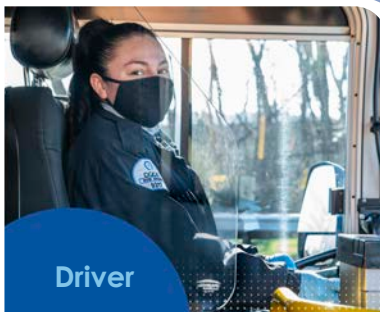
None of these positive changes would be possible without support from local, state, and federal officials who see the value transit brings to our region. They have come to us with their ideas and passed measures like Rebuild Illinois (our state’s capital program) and the American Rescue Plan (the recent federal relief package). Congress is discussing proposals like the INVEST in America Act that would further modernize the U.S. transportation network.

But our riders are even more important to our system’s recovery than any bill or law. Your decision to ride on Pace keeps the air clean, the traffic flowing, and essential jobs filled. To those of you who rode safely throughout the pandemic: Thank you. To those of you still considering when to return: We’re ready when you are.

Sincerely,



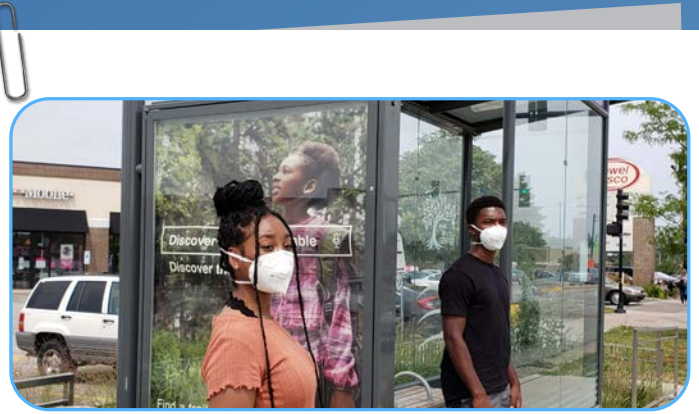
Mechanic



Driver

We’re hiring! Apply online today!

Interested in joining a great team dedicated to public service? Pace has several job opportunities to advance your career in the exciting public transportation industry. To apply, visit PaceBus.com/careers.



Increased Ridership Expected with the Chicago & Illinois Reopening

With the recent reopening of Chicago and Illinois on Friday, June 11, ridership is expected to increase, and Pace no longer has capacity limits on its vehicles. However, the mask mandate on public transportation remains in effect.

When riding regardless of your vaccination status, please continue to wear a mask. In addition, federal regulations require us to refuse boarding to unmasked riders.

Since the start of the pandemic, Pace has worked diligently to keep all our riders safe, and that commitment hasn’t changed. For more information about Pace’s COVID-19 response, please visit PaceBus.com/Health.



STAY INFORMED

Pace has announced the reinstatement of service on several routes, taking effect in August 2021. Sign up at PaceBus.com for email/text alerts about your route to stay up to date.



PULSE

Pulse Dempster Line
Construction to begin
this Summer 2021

Pace’s second Pulse line will operate on Dempster Street between Evanston and O’Hare International Airport. Connections to other Pace and CTA bus routes, the CTA Yellow and Purple lines, as well as to Metra’s Union Pacific North, Northwest, and North Central Service rail lines will provide passengers with a variety of local and regional travel options. Construction will begin this Summer; it is anticipated to be completed in the Summer of 2022.

What do you think?

Pace works hard to provide a safe and efficient transportation system for our customers. Let us know if you have any questions or comments to help us make your ride more enjoyable. Visit PaceBus.com/contact-Pace.



847-364-PACE
PaceBus.com



Before and during the pandemic Pace has been busy working on a number of priority capital projects.

Plainfield bus garage

A new bus garage is under construction in Plainfield to support Pace's hugely successful I-55 express service. It is anticipated to be completed in 2022. This facility will have the capacity for 130 buses with administrative offices. It is next door to the recently opened Park-n-Ride.



Northwest Division expansion in Wheeling

This CNG fueling facility for buses is now under renovation. It will become the new home of Pace Northwest Division and is expected to be completed in 2023.

River Garage Expansion Project

This is an expansion of the existing River Division garage in Elgin. More space is needed to house all the buses used in northern Kane County service as well as all the I-90 express service.

Harvey Transportation Center

Pace's busiest transit hub will be significantly upgraded while also becoming integrated with the nearby Metra station, making it a unified, multimodal facility.

Joliet Multi-Modal Facility

Pace partnered with the City of Joliet on building a new bus terminal adjacent to Joliet's Metra and Amtrak hub. This project is expected to be completed in the Spring of 2022. The facility will have 13 bus bays with real-time bus departure information.



Ventra Card Can Now be Added to Google Pay for Easy, Contactless Payments

Now, Pace and CTA riders are able to simply tap their NFC-enabled Android™ phone on at CTA rail stations or aboard CTA or Pace buses to pay for rides using Ventra Card in Google Pay. Customers using Google Pay are not required to carry a plastic Ventra card. After adding their Ventra card to Google Pay, there is no need for riders to unlock their phone; they can simply 'wake up' their phone to tap and go with Ventra Card in Google Pay.

Google Pay and the Ventra app work seamlessly together. Getting started in the Ventra app, customers can add a new Ventra card to Google Pay or transfer a registered, plastic Ventra Card to Google Pay. Within either the Ventra app or Google Pay, customers can see their transit balance, check either pass expiration date, or review their recent travel history. Customers can add transit value and passes from the Ventra app.

A Ventra Card on Google Pay can't be loaded onto more than one phone at a time. Customers should load their Ventra card onto the phone they wish to use to ride. The Ventra Card on Google Pay works on NFC-enabled Android phones running Android 5 or later. Full fare Ventra Cards can be added to Google Pay. Ventra Cards issued through special fare programs like RTA Reduced Fare, Student Ventra Cards or UPass cards cannot be added to Google Pay at this time.

In addition, Apple Pay was introduced last year for iPhone users. See instructions/videos on how to get started: <https://www.ventrachicago.com/applepay/>

Driving Innovation

The Pace Strategic Vision Plan

Driving Innovation is Pace's current strategic vision plan. As the successor plan to the agency's Vision 2020 plan, *Driving Innovation* will serve as Pace's primary guiding document that establishes major planning and policy initiatives and priorities for the coming years.

We are interested in your feedback on this plan!

Driving Innovation has been published for public and community comment, from June 22 through August 20, 2021. Comments or questions may be directed to Driving.Innovation@PaceBus.com.

After incorporation of public input, Pace anticipates to formally adopt the plan in the Fall of 2021.

Schaumburg's Woodfield Trolley Re-Started July 2, 2021

The Village of Schaumburg FREE Woodfield Trolley (Pace Route 905) weekend service started on Friday, July 2, 2021. Service operates the normal routing every 20 minutes on Saturday and every 30 minutes on Friday and Sunday, on the following schedule:



- Fridays: Noon-9:00 PM
- Saturdays: 10:00 AM-9:00 PM • Sundays: 11:00 AM-6:00 PM

STOPS AT:

1. Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Hotel
2. Roosevelt University (flag driver on McConnor Pkwy.)
3. IKEA
4. Hyatt Regency Schaumburg Chicago
5. Marshalls
6. Woodfield Mall (lower level JCPenney)
7. Dick's Sporting Goods
8. Streets of Woodfield (Center Dr.)
9. AMC Theatres Streets of Woodfield
10. Pace Northwest Transportation Center

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