



ONBOARD



Melinda J. Metzger
Executive Director

2024 was a milestone year for Pace, and our riders have been at the heart of everything we do. Our ambitious goals, expanded service, and capital investments have fueled continual ridership increases throughout the year. We've advanced our sustainability goals with the launch of our first-ever electric bus and by securing millions in federal grants for our zero emissions transition.

Key 2025 projects include opening the renovated Northwest Transportation Center in Schaumburg which includes an ADA Transfer Facility, the completion of our new acceptance facility in Markham, the transformation of our North Division in Waukegan into our first fully electric garage, and the introduction of 22 more electric buses. Guided by invaluable rider feedback, our ReVision project will reimagine the ways Pace delivers transit services to better meet evolving needs.

Thank you for being part of our success. Together, we're building a more sustainable, innovative, and accessible transit system for 2025 and beyond!



Richard A. Kwasneski
Chairman

As we reflect on 2024, it's clear that Pace made strides in strengthening our services and enhancing the experience for our riders. Through strategic investments, we've built a stronger, more resilient transit system, evident in our steadily growing ridership—a testament to the vital role Pace plays in connecting people and communities across our region. Recently Pace ranked in the top 5 for 2024 ridership growth for systems our size.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to providing modern, efficient, and inclusive public transportation. While we face uncertain financial times, our resolve to advocate for transformative investments remains steadfast. A robust public transportation system is essential to our region, and we are dedicated to delivering the world-class transit system you deserve.

Thank you for being part of our success story in 2024. Together, we look forward to building on this momentum in the year ahead.





Pace's Network Revitalization Plan Update

What is the Pace ReVision plan?

As travel patterns continue to evolve post-pandemic, Pace is rethinking its network to meet the changing needs of suburban communities.

The Pace ReVision project is a transformative initiative designed to create a more accessible, equitable, and productive transit system across our region. By reimagining suburban bus service routes, schedules, and On Demand options, this study could lead to significant service updates, starting as early as 2026.

ReVision isn't just a study — it's a community-driven transformation that invites riders and residents to share their vision for the future of suburban transit.

Pace launched an online survey which recently closed, to hear directly from the people who rely on these services every day. Whether you're a frequent rider, a local business owner, or simply interested in shaping the future of transportation in your community, your feedback will guide the planning and priorities of Pace's future services.

More Pace routes now have expanded schedules!

We've increased service in the evenings and weekends as of December 9, 2024, on the following routes: **301, 322, 350, 364, 563, and 564**, as well as popular weekday routes like the **I-55 Bus on Shoulder**.

Riders have responded well to these changes. The 2025 budget even includes making the pilot project that expanded service earlier this year along **Route 318 in the western suburbs a permanent expansion**. The route, which Pace expanded by 83%, primarily serves North Avenue, between the CTA Blue Line Forest Park Transit Center and Northlake Commons in Northlake.

Engaging the public on ReVision

The work is well underway on our network restructuring project, ReVision. We had several public engagement events scheduled through the end of the year. These outreach opportunities allowed us to share more about the importance of ReVision and collect feedback as we presented the three network concepts that the project team has developed.

Two of the three concepts focus on transformational investment. The **"Plus 50 — Ridership"** concept would increase service more than 50 percent from 2019 levels with the goal of providing stronger access to opportunity for as many people as possible. The **"Plus 50 — Coverage"** concept, meanwhile, would increase service at the same level as Plus 50 — Ridership with the goal of providing basic service close to as many people and destinations as possible.

The third concept, called **"Plus 10 — Limited Investment"**, focuses on what Pace would do if current funding levels were maintained with the idea of limiting changes to service.

We are looking forward to seeing this project enter its final stages in 2025. These three concepts have been developed for feedback and will create a more responsive, rider-focused transit system that adapts to changing travel patterns and community needs. Stay tuned!

**We want to hear from you!
Share your feedback!**

Hopefully you had a chance to take the ReVision survey before it closed in January, but if you missed it, feel free to provide feedback at PaceBus.com/ReVision or send us an email at revision@PaceBus.com.



NEW Lansing Area On Demand



(L-R): State Rep. Marcus C. Evans, Jr., Cook County Commissioner Stanley Moore, Pace Chairman Richard A. Kwasneski, Village of Lansing Mayor Patricia L. Eidam, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, Pace Executive Director Melinda Metzger, and Pace Board Member Terry R. Wells

The new Lansing Area On Demand service launched in the south suburbs on October 7. The pilot program improves service coverage in southern Cook County, provides flexible transportation options on weekdays and Saturdays, and creates stronger first and last-mile connections between multiple Pace bus routes. A reminder that this and all our On Demand services are another affordable transit option available to you if you live near any of our 11 On Demand zones.

TRANSIT TAKES YOU PLACES OTHER APPS CAN'T.

Plan your trip, track your ride in real time and more, with the Transit app!

The Transit app is Pace's recommended trip planning app. Transit app's trip planner integrates fixed-route buses, CTA and Metra trains, ride hailing, biking, walking as well as our reservation-based services, On Demand and VanGo, to give you the best possible trip.

Download the app today! visit PaceBus.com/transit-app



Project Zero

North Division to become Pace's first zero-emission facility

Recently, the Pace Board of Directors awarded a contract for the design and construction services for phase two of the electrification project at North Division in Waukegan. The project helps Pace fulfill our Project Zero commitment.

We selected North Division to become our first zero-emission-only facility. With this new contract awarded, we anticipate breaking ground on the project during Phase 1. The full project will expand the division's indoor bus storage, maintenance, and administration areas and upgrade the building to accommodate charging equipment and indoor storage for 60 battery-electric buses. See a couple of the renderings included here.



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Future Pulse Lines advancing

Pace staff and one of our Pulse buses appeared at the Touch-a-Truck event Saturday, September 7 at the North Riverside Park Mall in the west suburbs. The event allowed us to explain the Pulse service and our ongoing project to develop the new Pulse Cermak Line.

Area residents, including some existing Pace customers, seemed excited to hear about our plans for Pulse, and the frequent service, bus priority, and station amenities that come along with it. Several attendees toured the purple-branded bus and stopped by our table to sign up for alerts about the Pulse Cermak project.

The event coincided with a major milestone for the project. The project team recently completed the Project Definition Report for the Pulse Cermak Line, which will become Pace's fifth line in the Pulse network. A copy of the new report is available at: PaceBus.com/project/pulse-cermak.

The completion of the report marks the end of the first phase of the project, and the team now is working on scoping the Environmental Review phase of the project. The phase is expected to run through 2025, and it helps produce the necessary documentation to satisfy National Environmental Policy Act requirements.

Pulse Lines are already running on Milwaukee Avenue and Dempster Street. The third and fourth lines will be on South Halsted Street and 95th Street. Those two lines are in the project development stage.

MAKE YOUR ART BRING PEOPLE TO A STOP.

To celebrate our 40th year of providing public transportation to Chicagoland riders we have enlisted artists within the six-county region to create works of art on 40 benches for use at Pace bus stops. When the rest of the benches get installed in early 2025, you'll have the chance to see their creations while you wait for your next Pace bus. Here is a sneak peek at some of the artists' creations. It is not too late to apply if you're interested in decorating a bench. Please visit:

PaceBus.com/40benches for details.



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.

847-364-PACE

Submit comments online at Pace's self-service feedback center at PaceBus.com/contact.



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