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New services, major changes coming soon to Central Iowa transit

Two new on-demand zones will launch near River Bend and Jordan Creek, along with schedule and route changes impacting Clive, Des Moines and West Des Moines riders

GREATER DES MOINES, IA – Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) will add two new DART On Demand zones, including a zone near Des Moines' River Bend neighborhood and another zone covering Jordan Creek Town Center including areas along Grand Avenue in West Des Moines. Additionally, significant route and schedule changes will take effect for Local Routes 52 and 72 as well as minor schedule changes for Local Routes 3 and 74 and Express Routes 92, 95 and 96 as part of DART's regularly planned service change beginning Sunday, June 11.

TWO NEW DART ON DEMAND ZONES

The two new DART On Demand zones, River Bend and Jordan Creek, will offer trips that can be booked in real-time (on-demand) or scheduled in advance. All trips must take place within the designated zone, and rides may be shared with other riders.

DART On Demand uses a smartphone application and smaller sized buses to provide service. Riders can also book through an [online web portal](#) or by calling DART customer service at 515-283-8100. Rides are \$1.75. Riders who qualify for half fare and children ages 6-10 can ride for \$0.75.

DART On Demand River Bend will be available on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and serve a region of northern Des Moines, including the neighborhoods of River Bend, Oakridge, King Irving, Mondamin Presidential and Chautauqua Park. DART On Demand River Bend is made possible thanks to funding received from Principal® Foundation, Mid-Iowa Health Foundation, The Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines and the Iowa Department of Transportation.

"DART On Demand River Bend will support a pocket of our community within the 50314-zip code that can greatly benefit from this low-cost transportation service," said Erin Hockman, Chief External Affairs Officer for DART. "Residents in these neighborhoods will have greater connectivity to DART's full transit system offerings as a result of this new on-demand service, thanks to our community partners."

"Principal Foundation is pleased to work alongside several other community leaders to provide equitable, targeted public transportation to positively impact the economic mobility gap between those with reliable transportation and those without throughout our Central Iowa region — including the new DART On Demand River Bend zone," said Jo Christine Miles, Director of the Principal Foundation and Community Relations for Principal® Financial Group.

In addition to traveling within the zone, riders can book a trip to any bus stop located in the zone in order to connect to DART's Local Routes 3, 5, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 60.

DART On Demand Jordan Creek serves a zone surrounding the Jordan Creek Town Center in West Des Moines and destinations along Grand Avenue including DMACC West Campus and MidAmerican Energy Company RecPlex. In addition to traveling within the zone, riders can connect between DART On Demand and Local Routes 52 and 72 and Express Route 96 at Jordan Creek Town Center. This service will run on weekdays from 7:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.

These newly added zones expand availability of the on-demand service which was initially launched in November 2022 in Ankeny. Learn more at ridedart.com/DART-Demand.

LOCAL ROUTE MAP AND SCHEDULE CHANGES

Changes will also impact routing and schedules for **Local Route 52 – Valley West/Jordan Creek** and **Local Route 72 – West Des Moines Loop** because of the addition of DART On Demand Jordan Creek. Local Route 52 will begin traveling on University Avenue between Valley West Mall and 60th Street in West Des Moines. The route will also be renamed to Local Route 52 – Jordan Creek. Local Route 72 will no longer travel in the area where service has been added on Route 52. Local Route 72 will be renamed to Local Route 72 – WDM Valley.

As part of this service change, minor changes will also be made to the schedules for **Local Routes 3 and 74** and **Express Routes 92, 95 and 96**.

SCHOOL SERVICES

DART removes select trips on certain Local Routes in the morning and afternoon that serve students traveling to and from school during the summer break. These trips will be restored in August to transport Des Moines Public Schools students and staff.

SPECIAL EVENT SERVICES

The free D-Line Shuttle will continue to travel between the Iowa State Capitol Complex and Western Gateway Park on 15-minute frequency on weekdays and Saturdays. The D-Line is currently operating between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturdays to transport riders to and from the Downtown Farmers' Market. Additionally, DART will provide special event transit services surrounding Yankee Doodle Pops and 80/35 this summer.

Learn more about the changes outlined here, including updated schedules and maps, at ridedart.com/June.

About DART

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 3 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 ridedart.com, download the free MyDART app or call 515-283-8100.

About Principal® Foundation

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