

Going Places

NEWS & VIEWS FROM AROUND THE CTA

Air-Conditioning Upgrades Continue on CTA Buses and Trains

The CTA is continuing to upgrade the air-conditioning of its bus and rail fleets to improve customer comfort as summer temperatures remain high. Through August 13, 80 percent of the CTA's 1,908 buses are air-conditioned, compared to 49 percent last summer.

The CTA expects to retire most of the remaining standard-sized buses in its fleet that are neither air-conditioned nor accessible to customers with disabilities. Recent deliveries have brought the number of new air-conditioned low-floor Nova buses in service since the end of last year to 244, and all 469 of the buses in this order are expected to be in service by next summer.

In upgrading the bus fleet, the CTA has also returned to service 390 older (TMC) buses that have been retrofitted with new air-conditioning systems. Retrofits will be completed on all 474 of the 10-year-old buses in this group by early fall.

All 1,190 of CTA's 'L' cars are also air-conditioned, and 92 of the oldest (2200 series Budd) cars have been upgraded recently with improved air-conditioning systems. The remaining 50 cars in this 31-year-old group will receive air-conditioning upgrades throughout the summer. Air-conditioning improvements are also being provided as part of the rehabilitation of 598 other (2600 series Budd) 'L' cars that have been in service for up to 20 years. Work has been completed on 406 of the cars, or about 68 percent of the total.

CTA Improves Accessibility on Mainline Service



In keeping with our mission, the CTA is continuously making system-wide improvements designed to make travel on the CTA's fixed route bus and rail system a more attractive and viable option for our customers with disabilities. On July 22, 11 additional bus routes became accessible to the disabled, and this fall another 20 routes will become accessible as we work toward a goal of having 100 percent of our bus routes accessible by the end of 2003.

As of August 15, 2001, 88 percent or 1,679 out of 1,908 of our buses are accessible with features such as ramps, lifts and devices for securing wheelchairs. As new accessible buses are delivered to the CTA fleet, more routes will become accessible. The addition of the newly accessible routes this summer and fall means 80 percent or 111 out of 139 routes will be accessible by the end of this year. Bus routes are deemed accessible only when every bus serving that route is accessible.

As of July 22, 2001, the following CTA bus routes were designated as accessible:

- #2 Hyde Park Express
- #30 South Chicago
- #36 Broadway
- #65 Grand
- #71 71st
- #75 74th/75th
- #81W West Lawrence
- #82 Kimball/Homan
- #100 Jeffery Manor Express
- #126 Jackson
- #129 West Loop/South Loop

This fall, the 20 additional routes that will become accessible are:

- #6 Jeffrey Express
- #17 Westchester
- #24 Wentworth
- #25 West Cermak
- #43 43rd
- #44 Wallace/Racine
- #57 Laramie
- #59 59th/61st
- #63W West 63rd
- #68 Northwest Highway
- #85A North Central
- #93 North California
- #94 South California
- #103 West 103rd
- #108 Halsted/95th
- #112 Vincennes/111th
- #127 NW/Madison
- #147 Outer Drive Express
- #157 Streeter/ville
- #165 West 65th

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Employees Count

CTA Family Days at Six Flags Great America

Despite hot and humid weather, over 3,000 CTA employees and their families and friends enjoyed CTA's fun-filled Family Days at Six Flags Great America on Sunday, July 29 and on Wednesday, August 1. In addition to the fun, employees were able to save money on the admission to the theme park by purchasing specially discounted tickets in advance from credit unions located at various CTA locations.



cta
take it.



CTA employees and their families and friends take time out from the fun to pose for a photo.



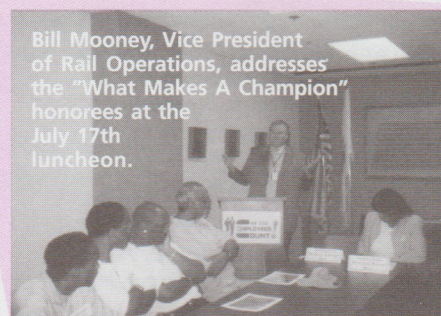
Chicago Avenue Garage 7th anniversary

On Friday, July 13, the Chicago Avenue Garage hosted their 7th annual anniversary celebration. The celebration commemorates the opening of the garage in July 1994.

Over 700 employees and their families attended the celebration, which was staged in the parking lot in front of the Garage. Fun activities included raffles, games, food and dancing. The CTA's mini bus provided rides around the facility and the City of Chicago provided a jumping jack for the children. A dunk tank was rented for the occasion and provided some entertaining moments.



Chicago Avenue Garage 7th Anniversary celebrators look ready for fun.



Bill Mooney, Vice President of Rail Operations, addresses the "What Makes A Champion" honorees at the July 17th luncheon.

Human Resources Now Has Extended Hours

On July 23, the Medical, Benefits and Personnel Services sections of the Human Resources Department began extended hours of service. The new hours are 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The hours on Friday are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Extended hours make it possible for more hires to be processed and for applicants currently working other jobs to come in after work. In addition, the new hours will give more flexibility to field management for referring employees to Medical when necessary. Employees coming out of the Sick Book or off Disability can also take advantage of these extended hours.

"What Makes A Champion" Luncheon

On Tuesday, July 17, 2001, the Employee Recognition Programs staff hosted the last in a series of four "What Makes A Champion" Luncheon Forums for the year 2001. This fourth luncheon honored the Rail Maintenance and Rail Cleanliness finalists for the year 2000.

After the lunch and an award ceremony, the honorees participated in a forum with their peers and CTA executives to share the good things that they do at the CTA and their ideas on how things can continue to improve.

Going Places

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Rolling through the Years

AUGUST 2001

Please join us in congratulating the following CTA employees who are celebrating special anniversaries.

49 YEARS

Mary Lyall August 20
Payroll Accounting, Control Clerk III

40 YEARS

Robert Mischke August 7
Converter and Differential,
Bus and Train Mechanic

39 YEARS

Edgar Greer, Jr. August 9
74th Garage, Bus Service Supervisor II
D. Tarnowski August 24
Bus Heavy Maintenance,
Maintenance Manager

36 YEARS

James Washington August 27
Research and Development, Rail
Communication Specialist
A. Wilson August 12
Archer Garage, Bus Operator

35 YEARS

Nathaniel Bradford August 18
74th Garage, Bus Operator
Tim Green August 29
77th Garage, Transportation Manager
Willie Murray August 26
Red Line, Switchman

30 YEARS

Louis Bell, Jr. August 9
Archer Garage, Bus Operator
William Bertha August 23
Kedzie Garage, Bus Operator
Bernard Cheers August 20
Green Line, Rapid Transit Operator
Robert Kain August 12
Forest Glen Garage, Bus Operator
Martin Kramer, Jr. August 3
Midway Maintenance, Car Repairer 'A'
John Lindsey, Jr. August 13
Red Line, Switchman
Frank Minardo August 27
Brown Line, Rapid Transit Operator
Stanley Parish August 12
77th Garage, Transportation Manager
Robert Thomas August 16
Rail Customer Facilities Maintenance,
Janitor

25 YEARS

Michael Consention, Jr. August 16
Power, Lineman
James Downes August 11
General Appearance, Painter
Ralph Gimino August 16
Mechanical Unit Assessment,
Electrical Worker
Suzann Thomas August 11
Kedzie Garage, Bus Servicer
James Vesely August 16
Quality Inspection,
Senior Specification Engineer
Robert Wrobel August 9
Elevator/Escalator Maintenance,
Escalator Serviceman

People on the Move

Welcome to the following employees who recently joined the CTA:

Paul Fish was named the Vice President of Capital Investment. Paul has over 29 years of experience working for the US Department of Transportation and comes to us from the Federal Transit Administration, Region V, where he was the Director of Planning and Program Development. In that capacity, he was responsible for a \$700 million annual grant program for the six-state region. His responsibilities also included participating in national task forces that dealt with transportation and public policy issues, as well as supervising a staff of planners and grant specialists.

Chuck Webber has joined the System and Safety Department as the new Manager of Health and Environment. He comes to the CTA with ten years of experience with the Chicago Park District where he held the position of Environmental Engineer.



Reroutes/Service Improvements

The following service reroutes/service improvements went into effect in July:

● Effective Friday, July 13 through Early Fall

Due to street construction on Armitage, eastbound #73 Armitage buses will be rerouted via Armitage, Cicero, Grand, Kostner and back to its original route. Customers can board eastbound buses on Cicero or Grand.

● Effective Saturday, July 14, 2001

To accommodate increased ridership on Saturdays, Brown Line service has been added as follows:

Service to Downtown will run 18 minutes later, adding one additional trip.

Last southbound train will leave Kimball at 11:40 p.m.

Last northbound train will leave Adams/Wabash at 12:13 a.m.

Trains will run more frequently.

Daytime (8 a.m. to 6 p.m.) every 7-1/2 minutes instead of 10

Evening (6 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.) every 10 minutes instead of 15

Late night (11:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.) every 15 minutes instead of 20

● Effective Monday, July 23, 2001 until Further Notice

Due to the Grant Park South Garage reconstruction, CTA buses that regularly operate on Michigan Avenue between Adams and Van Buren now bypass northbound and southbound bus stops at Jackson.

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Improved Accessibility

Continued from page 1

This list of bus routes was developed in cooperation with the CTA's ADA Advisory Committee, which also provided valuable input on ways to maximize the accessibility of the new Nova buses. The CTA's new Nova buses make traveling more convenient for customers with disabilities. The new buses boast a low-floor feature that eliminates the need for a lift. Instead, a hydraulic front-door ramp can be folded out from the floor of the bus to allow easy access for wheelchairs or mobility devices. Currently, 88 percent of the CTA's rail fleet is accessible, and 42 percent of the agency's rail stations, 61 out of 144 facilities, are accessible. By the end of the year, the CTA expects 64 rail stations, or 44 percent of the system total, to be accessible. The CTA will be going out for bid this year to replace 142 remaining railcars that are presently not accessible. Currently, every CTA train has at least two railcars that are accessible. The CTA expects to have 100 percent of its railcars accessible in 2005. CTA stations that are accessible feature: elevators or ramps, tactile platform edging, raised lettering and Braille signage, wheelchair turnstiles, an improved public address system, curb cuts, gap fillers, and elevator status boards. Accessible CTA rail cars include: wide sliding doors, designated wheelchair parking areas, wheelchair securing devices and passenger intercom system. In addition, to alert customers when a train runs express and will bypass certain stations, an "express" reading has been added to all railcar destination sign curtains and a red flashing LED light is being installed to both side destination sign boxes on all railcars. As the CTA forges ahead to revitalize our system, we will continue to keep the needs of our customers with disabilities foremost in our plans and decision making.

Changing Gears

Reroutes/Service Improvements continued from page 3

Affected bus routes:

#1, #3, #4, #6, #7, #14, #126, #127, #129, #130, #145, #147.

Northbound buses: After Van Buren, the next stop is at Adams.

Southbound buses: The last stop before the construction zone is mid-block between Madison and Monroe. The next stop is mid-block between Van Buren and Congress.

● Effective Monday, July 30, 2001, until Completion

Due to viaduct and street construction on Austin Boulevard south of Lake, southbound #91 Austin buses have been rerouted via Austin, Lake, Central, Washington, Ridgeland and Harrison back to the regular route. Northbound #91 buses are currently rerouted via Austin, Madison, Ridgeland and Lake back to Austin.

The following service reroutes/service improvements are effective this month:

● Effective Monday, August 6, 2001, until Early Fall

Due to utility construction, the northbound and southbound #8 Halsted & and #N62 Archer buses will be rerouted. Buses will run via Roosevelt, Union, 18th Street, Halsted, and then resume their regular routes on Halsted.

● Effective Monday, August 6, 2001

To enhance the delivery of service, #120 North Western/Wacker Express and #121 Union/Wacker Express buses will make the following additional stops along their routes:

- east on Illinois at State and at Rush
- west on Grand at Rush and at State

Also, the #120 will now make a stop westbound on Randolph at Wacker. #122 Illinois Center/North Western Express buses will add a new stop westbound on Randolph at Wacker.

To return from the West Loop, customers can board #14, #20, #56 and #157 buses east on Washington at Franklin.

● Effective the week of August 27th

A new bus stop pattern affecting #135 Wilson/LaSalle Express, #136 Sheridan/LaSalle Express and #156 LaSalle buses will begin on LaSalle Street (Downtown).

New southbound LaSalle stops:

- mid-block Wacker/Lake
- after the intersection at Randolph
- after the intersection at Madison
- before the intersection at Adams

(The southbound stops at Washington and at Monroe will be eliminated.)

New northbound LaSalle stops:

- before the intersection at Adams
- before the intersection at Madison
- after the intersection at Washington
- mid-block Lake/Wacker

(The northbound stops at Monroe and at Randolph will be eliminated.)