



take it everywhere.SM

Going Places

Published for CTA Employees

April 2004, Volume 9, Number 2

News & Views

News & Views 2

- Take CTA to the Festivals

Kedzie Station Reopens Along Cermak (Douglas) Blue LineSM 2

People on the Move 2

Rolling through the Years 3

- April 2004 Anniversaries

Changing Gears 4

- Service Improvements on Eleven Bus Routes
- CTA Encourages Customers to Just Rack and Ride

Going Places is published monthly by the Chicago Transit Authority Communications and Marketing Department, ©2004. All rights reserved.

Send comments or article submissions to: Edeana Rollins c/o CTA Communications and Marketing, Merchandise Mart, Room 730 PO Box 3555, Chicago, IL 60654. Phone (312) 664-7200, x8447. Fax (312) 664-8936, or email comments to: erollins@transitchicago.com.

04dj019



take it everywhere.SM

Red Line Rehab Begins Along the Dan Ryan Expressway

On March 24, 2004, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, CTA Frank Kruesi and other community officials announced the beginning of CTA's \$282.6 million Red LineSM rehabilitation project. The work, which is now underway, involves upgrading track electrical power and renovating seven stations. When the project is completed in the fall of 2006, customers will experience more reliable and efficient rail service and upgraded stations.

Improving power reliability and the delivery of that power are the most significant aspects of the project. Since the Dan Ryan branch of the Red Line opened in 1969, the CTA has added trains and increased their frequency to keep up with customer demand. In fact, the branch today transports nearly four times more people annually than it did the first year it operated. In 1969, rail cars did not require as much power to operate as today's more modern rail cars. The Red Line ran six-car trains with rush hour intervals at five to seven minutes. Today, the Red Line runs eight-car trains with rush hour intervals at three to five minutes.

Here is a summary of the construction schedule:

• Phase I (March 2004 – March 2005)

Construction during this phase includes the replacement of third rail track and other special track. It is necessary for trains to operate periodically on temporary (bypass) tracks on the left shoulders of the Dan Ryan Expressway in both directions at specific work zones between Cermak Avenue and 95th Street. A total of eight sets of by-pass tracks will be built over the course of the project. Trains travel within corridors located between CTA's existing concrete barrier and a new temporary concrete barrier. This allows the CTA to continue running normal rail service during construction. Boarding procedures for CTA customers remain the same.

The location of the temporary tracks requires Dan Ryan expressway traffic to shift one lane

to the right (both southbound and northbound).

To prepare for the lane shifts, the CTA has been smoothing and paving the right shoulders of the

expressway to be used as driving lanes. Four lanes of traffic in both directions will be maintained.

For safety reasons, select entrance ramps will be closed temporarily while lane shifts are underway, with no more than two ramps closed at any one time. Each ramp will close for approximately eight to ten weeks. The northbound 87th Street entrance ramp is temporarily closed until early May. The northbound 71st Street entrance ramp is temporarily closed until mid-June. Other temporary ramp closures will be, in order, northbound 95th Street ramp, northbound 79th Street ramp and southbound 76th Street ramp.

The CTA is working closely with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to minimize the impact of construction on community residents and other motorists who use the Dan Ryan Expressway.

• Phase II (August 2004 – January 2006)

The work during this phase will involve the construction of two new power substations and upgrades to two other substations and the installation of new contact rail, which will result in increased power for the branch.

• Phase III (August 2005 – Fall 2006)

Seven stations from Sox/35th to 87th Street will receive upgrades including new flooring, enhanced lighting, new platform canopies, new escalators, improved signs and elevator installation at two locations (47th Street and 69th Street stations), making the stations newly accessible to customers with disabilities.

The Red Line rehab project, along with the ongoing rehabilitation of the Cermak branch of the Blue Line and the upcoming Brown Line capacity expansion project, are tangible proof of the CTA's commitment to improve our product and invest in the communities we serve.



Take CTA to the Festivals

Summer is just around the corner and so is another exciting season of festivals sponsored by the Mayor's Office of Special Events. CTA buses and trains are the best way to beat traffic and parking hassles. Extend your fun by letting CTA take you there.

Reach Grant Park Festivals and Monroe Harbor from the following rail stations: Jackson & (Blue and Red Lines), Adams/Wabash (Brown, Green and Purple Lines) and Library & (Orange Line).

The following bus routes stop within three blocks of Grant Park, #1 Indiana/Hyde Park &, #2 Hyde Park Express &, #3 King Drive &, #X3 King Drive Express &, #4 Cottage Grove &, #X4 Cottage Grove Express &, #6 Jackson Park Express &, #7 Harrison &, #10 Museum of Science and Industry &, #14 Jeffery Express, #20 Madison &, #22 Clark &, #24 Wentworth &, #26 South Shore Express &, #X28 Stony Island Express &, #29 State &, #36 Broadway &, #62 Archer &, #126 Jackson &, #129 West Loop/South Loop &, #130 Grant Park Treasures &, #145 Wilson/Michigan Express, #146 Inner Drive/Michigan Express, #147 Outer Drive Express &, and #151 Sheridan &.

Reach the Air and Water Show at North Avenue Beach from the following nearby bus routes, #11 Lincoln &, #22 Clark &, #36 Broadway &, #70 Division &, #72 North &, #73 Armitage &, and #151 Sheridan &. Connect with #72 North & buses to the beach from either the Sedgwick (Brown and Purple Lines) or North/Clybourn (Red Line) station.

- **Gospel Music Festival (Grant Park)**
(June 4 – June 6)
- **Blues Festival (Grant Park)**
(June 10 – June 13)
- **Taste of Chicago (Grant Park)**
(June 25 – July 4)
- **Country Music Festival (Grant Park)**
(June 26 – June 27)
- **Outdoor Film Festival (Grant Park)**
(Tuesday evenings only, July 13 – August 24)
- **Venetian Night (Monroe Street Harbor)**
(July 31)
- **Air and Water Show (North Avenue Beach)**
(August 21 – August 22)
- **Viva! Chicago Latin Music Festival (Grant Park)**
(August 28 – August 29)
- **Jazz Festival (Grant Park)**
(September 2 – September 5)
- **Celtic Festival (Grant Park)**
(September 18 – September 19)

For more information call 312-744-3370 or visit www.cityofchicago.org/specialevents.

Kedzie Station Reopens Along Cermak (Douglas) Blue LineSM

On Monday, March 29, the Kedzie station & reopened for customer use. The state-of-the-art, accessible station located at 1944 S. Kedzie, in the North Lawndale neighborhood, is the fifth out of eight stations to be rebuilt through the CTA's \$483 million renovation of the Cermak (Douglas) branch of the Blue Line.

The Kedzie station offers a number of customer-friendly amenities including two entrances. The main entrance to the stationhouse is on the west side of Kedzie, with an auxiliary entrance and exit located on the east side of Kedzie, providing convenient access to the station.

For customer comfort, the new center platform features benches, overhead heaters and enhanced lighting. Canopies have been installed to protect customers from the elements. Station signs and a public address system help customers navigate the station and receive travel information.

With a newly installed elevator, escalator, wheelchair turnstile, TTY telephones, tactile edging and Braille signs, the Kedzie station becomes the eighth station on the Cermak (Douglas) branch to be accessible to customers with disabilities.

In addition to the new customer amenities, CTA also integrated historical features. The front of the original stationhouse was restored and incorporated into the new stationhouse and a portion of the historic canopy hangs over the east end of the platform.



Frank Kruesi, Chicago Transit Authority President, is joined by Jerry Williams, CTA Transportation Manager; E. Bernard Jennings, Lawndale Business and Local Development Corporation; Carole L. Brown, Chicago Transit Board Chairman; Michael Chandler, 24th Ward Alderman and Cynthia Panayotovich, Chicago Transit Board Member at the ribbon cutting of the newly renovated Kedzie station on the Cermak (Douglas) branch of the Blue Line.



People on the Move

Congratulations to the following employees who recently joined CTA.

Patrick J. Daly joined CTA as the new General Manager of Security. Prior to joining CTA, Mr. Daly worked for the Federal Bureau of Investigation as Special Agent in charge of the San Juan Division, covering Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Mr. Daly had been with the agency since 1982. Prior to his work with the FBI, he served as an Oak Park police officer from 1977 to 1982.

William Nolan joined the CTA as the new General Manager of Systems Safety and Environmental Affairs. Mr. Nolan previously worked for the Chicago Fire Department as an Assistant Deputy Fire Commissioner where he served as the liaison with the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Please join us in welcoming Mr. Daly and Mr. Nolan to the CTA.

Rolling through the Years

April 2004

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

60 Years

Carmella Petrella

April 14

Payroll Accounting,
Control Clerk III

44 Years

James Paulson

April 14

Utility Service,
Service Truck Chaffeur

36 Years

John Holloway

April 11

Chicago Avenue Garage,
Bus Operator

Michael Keele

April 3

Electrical Rebuild,
Electrical Workers Foreman

35 Years

Robert Blicharz

April 14

Rail Equipment Engineering,
Project Specialist II

Raymond Hagerty

April 9

Vehicle Wiring,
Electrical Workers Foreman

Lorenzo Lacey

April 1

Rail Car Appearance,
Rail Maintenance Terminal
Office Clerk

30 Years

Richard Bretz

April 5

Blue Line,
Transportation Manager

Garry Pradin

April 10

Archer Garage,
Bus Repairer

James Sanders

April 3

77th Garage, Engine Washer

Darold Wardlow

April 11

Administrative Services,
Mail Clerk

Jackie Washington

April 15

Control Center, Controller II

25 Years

Nelson Alvarado

April 19

Forest Glen Garage,
Bus Operator

Mark Bonk

April 4

South Section, Rail Customer
Facilities Manager II

Jaqueline Buford

April 12

Green Line,
Customer Assistance Supervisor

Thomas Castro, Jr.

April 17

Rail Instruction,
Rail Instructor II

Ruthie Chilton

April 5

74th Garage, Bus Operator

Verdie Coleman

April 9

74th Garage, Bus Repairer

Brian Davis

April 24

Green Line South, Switchman

Allan Frazier

April 12

74th Garage, Bus Operator

Melvin Gayles

April 16

Track Maintenance,
Track Lubricator Maintainer

Gloris Haynes

April 26

Chicago Avenue Garage,
Bus Operator

Larry Henderson

April 30

Kedzie Garage, Bus Operator

Esther Johnson

April 19

Control Center, Controller I

Gustavo Meza

April 30

Forest Glen Garage, Bus Operator

Mario Nunez

April 26

Forest Glen Garage, Bus Operator

Jaime Orozco

April 26

Orange Line, Customer Assistant

Gertha Parish

April 26

Green Line,
Transportation Manager

Bennie Parker

April 19

Bus Service Management,
Bus Service Supervisor II

Ermon Phillips

April 30

Kedzie Garage, Bus Operator

Tommy Porter

April 23

Chicago Avenue Garage,
Bus Operator

Cynthia Pryor

April 26

Grounds Maintenance,
Building Laborer

Henry Reed

April 3

Red Line South, Switchman

Charles Ripke

April 16

Purchasing, Purchasing Manager

Rhonda Robinson

April 2

74th Garage, Bus Clerk IV

Milton Scott

April 16

Bus Service Management,
Bus Service Supervisor II

John Shea

April 9

Track Maintenance,
Track Lubricator Maintainer

Rosalind Smith

April 24

Red/Purple/Yellow Lines,
Yardmaster

Margaret Spitalli

April 2

Schedules and Traffic,
Schedule Maker I

Ray Stafford

April 16

Computer Operations,
Operations Coordinator

Edgard Torres

April 9

Utility Repairs, Bus & Truck
Mechanic

Anthony Traino, Jr.

April 2

Structures Maintenance, Ironworker

Jerome Weismantel

April 30

Archer Garage, Bus Operator

Eugene Williams

April 16

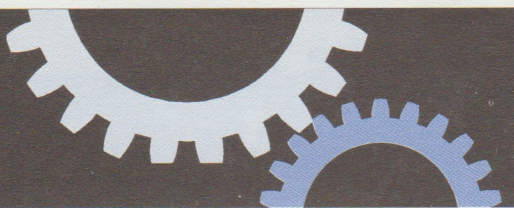
Chicago Avenue Garage,
Bus Operator

John Zupko

April 24

Rail Instruction, Rail Instructor II

Changing Gears



CTA Encourages Customers to Just Rack and Ride

Service Improvements on 11 Bus Routes

The following bus service improvements went into effect Sunday, April 25 or Monday, April 26, 2004. The changes benefit customers by providing additional transit options, more direct and convenient service and reduced travel times.

New Routes

#148 Clarendon/Michigan Express & — Effective April 26

This new route serves customers who want to enter Lake Shore Drive at Irving Park, replacing service most recently provided by the #145 Wilson/Michigan Express route. Buses operate in the peak direction of travel during morning and afternoon rush periods. Trips operate in the morning (5:50 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.) between Wilson/Ravenswood and Michigan/ Congress and in the afternoon (3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.) between State/Congress and Wilson/Ravenswood.

Route Improvements

#N4 Cottage Grove & — Effective April 25

Buses are being rerouted to add overnight owl service through the Illinois Center complex and a new southbound stop at Michigan/Randolph, which also serves #151 Sheridan & and #N66 Chicago & buses. The addition of the #N4 & stops provides a convenient transfer point for customers on those routes looking to complete their trips to the South Side.

#18 16th/18th & — Effective April 25

The eastbound extension of the route to connect with the Cermak-Chinatown station on the Red Line was made permanent. The extension was initially introduced in December 2002 as a service experiment. Increased ridership contributed to the route becoming permanent.

#37 Sedgwick/Ogden & — Effective April 26

Southbound buses now terminate their route at the newly-renovated Pulaski & station on the 54th/Cermak branch of the Blue Line. The new bus turnaround provides a direct connection to the Blue Line.

#72 North & — Effective April 26

Every bus, instead of every other bus, now operates west of Narragansett to/from Harlem

from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. every ten minutes on weekdays. Service west of Narragansett to Harlem runs later on weekday evenings. The last bus leaves Harlem at 12:06 a.m. instead of 10:50 p.m. allowing for improved connections with Pace and area employers.

#96 Lunt & — Effective April 26

Buses now operate to a new west terminal at Devon/Kedzie, instead of the Skokie Industrial Park. This change provides direct service for shoppers and employees of Lincolnwood Town Center.

#152 Addison & — Effective April 26

Buses now operate one half-hour later on weekday evenings. The last eastbound bus from Cumberland leaves at 9:40 p.m. instead of 9:10 p.m., and the last westbound bus from Lake Shore Drive leaves at 10:30 p.m. instead of 10:00 p.m.

#156 LaSalle — Effective April 26

Buses now operate 35 minutes later on weekday evenings. The last southbound bus leaves Belmont/Halsted at 7:30 p.m. instead of 6:55 p.m. and the last northbound bus leaves Desplaines/Harrison at 8:05 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m.

#201 Central/Ridge & — Effective April 26

In order to provide service closer to the Northwestern University campus, buses now operate via Sheridan instead of Sherman.

Route Changes

#X21 Cermak Express & — Effective April 25

Buses return to their pre-experimental routing and schedule. Low ridership to the Medical District and downtown was the key factor in this change. Service now operates Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from 7:40 a.m. to 7:40 p.m.

#145 Wilson/Michigan Express — Effective April 25

Buses revert back to the pre-experimental routing. Based on customer feedback and staff observation, this change will help alleviate crowding on the #146 Inner Drive/Michigan Express. Southbound #145 Wilson/Michigan buses enter and exit Lake Shore Drive at Belmont.



On a visit to the Chicago Avenue Garage, Amy Malick (l.) of Planning was given a preview of the bike rack equipped bus that was displayed at the recent Chicago Bike Show. Also pictured is the team that prepped the bus for the show: (left) Larry Hinkle and (right) Frank Negron and Neftali Nieves.

CTA's Bike & Ride program continues to grow in popularity as was confirmed by the tremendous reception of CTA's "Just Rack and Ride" booth at the 2004 Subaru Chicago Bike Show held at Navy Pier in March. The Chicago Avenue Garage prepped the Nova bus that was used for demonstrations on how to use bike racks installed on CTA buses. In addition to the bike rack, the bus featured colorful signs touting the Bike & Ride program. Updated Bike & Ride brochures with the latest information on bicycle racks located at CTA rail stations were also distributed.

Thanks to the following CTA employees who helped to make the booth a success.

Elmer Avenir	Skokie Shops
Carlos Astaiza	Communications and Marketing
Lawrence Hinkle	Chicago Avenue
Derrick James	Communications and Marketing
Michael Loeffler	Communications and Marketing
Amy Malick	Planning
Raul Mendieta	Skokie Shops
Frank Negron	Chicago Avenue
Neftali Nieves	Chicago Avenue
Anna O'Sullivan	Skokie Shops
Jim Pawlowski	Chicago Avenue Bus Training Center
Mark Pearson	Skokie Shops
Louis Roja	Skokie Shops
Merresa	
Topps-Akindele	Communications and Marketing