



Moving into the Future

The Weekly Newsletter from America's Most Efficient Suburban Transit Agency

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www.pacebus.com

Pace is the suburban public transit agency for Chicagoland's six-county metropolitan region. As the largest bus agency in the U.S., Pace operates fixed bus routes, vanpools and paratransit services for municipalities consisting of 5.2 million residents. Visit the [Route Finder](#) for bus route information.

Pace to participate in 10th Annual Transportation Symposium

Pace Suburban Bus has not only strived to build and maintain relationships with a diverse community of riders, but with the business community as well. On Wednesday, November 15th, from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the [Chicago Hilton and Towers](#), Pace, along with [RTA](#), [CTA](#), [IDOT](#) and [Metra](#) will be at the [10th Annual Transportation Symposium and Business Exchange](#), informing and doing business with the transit agencies in northeastern Illinois. Symposium Committee member and Pace Special Projects Manager Bryce D. Word said that "Pace truly appreciates being a part of this forum because it allows attendees to learn about the industry in general, and to see how eager we are to promote supplier diversity."



Sandi Llano, Metra DBE Director and Symposium Committee Chair, opened the 2005 Transit Symposium and Business Exchange as Stephen E. Schlickman, RTA Executive Director, looks on.

Merry Green of [Merry Green Promotions Group](#) in Chicago, who has served as the Coordinator for the Symposium for the past two years, discussed the benefits of the forum to the economic well-being of the region. "More female and minority business owners are getting information regarding opportunities for businesses through this event. Our outreach efforts have reached an array of entities, including chambers, appropriate media outlets and the like," Green said.

Sandi Llano, DBE Director for Metra, has been involved with the Symposium since its inception. "This event provides suppliers, manufacturers, contractors and other firms with an opportunity to meet with appropriate procurement and development officials from each transportation agency, receive procurement forecasts, promote their products and services as well as network and develop partnerships with other vendors in the transportation industry," Llano said.

New this year will be an informational workshop, "Get Bids, Get Contracts, Get Paid," conducted by the procurement officials of the five agencies. Here the attendees will learn how to do business with each of the agencies, from learning how to get bids to how to receive payment for services. Also new this year is IDOT's role as an event host, which enables vendors even more opportunities. Each year the event draws from 500 to 700 vendors and the organizers are expecting the same number of vendors next year.

Pace already meets the federal requirements through its [Disadvantage Business Enterprise \(DBE\) Program](#), which is in place to provide contracting opportunities to small businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals. Sweeney, DBE Coordinator for Pace, said that "Pace recognizes the importance of having a diverse array of vendors that serve our ridership but society in general. Our DBE program allows Pace to select and meet great service providers who ass

daily basis."

Pace Suburban Bus is not only excited to join our transit counterparts in the Symposium but exceedingly committed to relationships with all communities within northeastern Illinois in order to improve Pace's operational performance and economic strength. For information on attending next week's Symposium, visit the event's [Web page](#).

Public invited to comment on troubled Route 312 Ogden Ave--3

In an effort to receive feedback concerning the viability of [Route 312 Ogden Avenue-31st Street](#), Pace will hold a [pub](#) Wednesday, November 15th from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the [Cicero Public Library](#). Route 312, which operates only during hours, has seen ridership with double digit declines for the past several months. The route travels from Harlem and Ogden to Berwyn to Cermak Road and Cicero Avenue in Cicero.

Pace wants to hear from the riders of Route 312 and anyone else interested in the route. It currently carries an average of 30 people a day; meaning that perhaps 30 or so people per day make round trips. Pace is reviewing its service throughout the west Cook County area, including the Ogden Avenue corridor, as part of a [restructuring](#) initiative that should begin late next year.

For those unable to attend the hearing, written comments regarding Route 312 can be mailed to the address at right or submitted via Pace's web site in the [Public Hearing Comment Form](#) area. They should be sent on or before the November 15 hearing date. The Pace Board will review public remarks before making a decision on the route at their December 6th meeting. Individuals with disabilities who plan on attending the public hearing--or any other Pace public meeting--and need certain accommodations (other than transportation) to participate can contact Pace at 708-339-4065 (voice) or 847-364-5093 (TTY).

**Written comments on 1
Pace public hearing, 4
to:
Pace
Attention: Govern
550 W. Algonc
Arlington Height**

Pace Factoid:

Pace ridership is up nearly 3% over last year, which is nearly identical to national trends over the p

"Moving into the Future" is a weekly newsletter provided by Pace Suburban Bus to update interested parties on the services Pace provides and how we make to constantly improve. Forward to others as you wish. For best results, please print in landscape format. Please submit feedback or request to be on the mailing list by calling 847-228-2421 or e-mail your request to govt.affairs@pacebus.com.