

FALL 2020

PULSE



Making Changes for Your Safety

More riders have been returning to Pace buses across Chicagoland. Welcome back! Your safety is our priority and Pace is taking steps to safely resume most operations as the state reopens.

Haven't returned yet? We're ready when you are.

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!



Sign up for email and text alerts about service changes [here](#) or [contact us](#) if you have questions.



[Visit our website](#) for details on Pace's COVID-19 response.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:



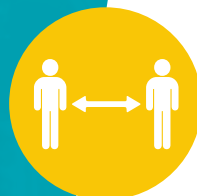
Buses are cleaned and sanitized throughout the day



Wear a face covering



Use a Ventra card for no-touch payment



Give riders and drivers space

We're Driven for You: Pulse Continues to Make Headway







The ongoing pandemic has required a lot of changes to Pace services, but **we remain committed to getting you where you need to go.** We know that riders rely on transit to get to work, to the doctor, to the grocery store, and many other important destinations. Pace is taking necessary precautions to keep all buses safe while also continuing to move forward with planned improvements, like future Pulse lines, to help you get to your destination now and in the future.

Collaboration is Key for South Halsted

Pace Suburban Bus and the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) are collaborating to improve transportation for thousands of people traveling on South Halsted Street every day. The South Halsted Bus Corridor Enhancement Study, initiated in early 2018, evaluated 11 miles of the roadway from 79th Street in the City of Chicago to the Pace Harvey Transportation Center. Segments of 95th Street and 79th Street that provide connections from South Halsted to the CTA 95th/ Dan Ryan and 79th Red Line Stations were also evaluated. The proposed improvements include a new Pulse Line south of 95th Street with 16 proposed stations to enhance transit services.

Throughout the project, Pace and CTA will engage customers, communities, and businesses through a variety of outreach activities including project website updates, public meetings, and one-on-one meetings.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

-  Roadway treatments such as dedicated bus-only lanes and queue jumps
-  Traffic signal optimization and transit prioritization
-  Pace Pulse stations south of 95th Street
-  Updated passenger amenities
-  Realigned bus stops
-  Accessibility improvements
-  Enhanced coordination of Pace and CTA services



Two more public meetings will be held to seek public input.

South Halsted

PUBLIC OUTREACH

The first public meeting took place on January 9, 2020. Proposed improvements to the corridor were presented for public comment. These included preliminary station locations, service plans, and bus lane improvements developed as part of the planning work under the South Halsted Bus Corridor Enhancement Study. Attendees provided a variety of valuable comments and suggestions about preferences for improving transit accessibility, reliability, bus priority improvements, Pulse service, station locations, and minimizing impacts.

Dempster Line Construction to Begin in 2021

Design is currently underway for the Pulse Dempster Line, with construction anticipated to begin in 2021. Serving the communities between Evanston and O'Hare Airport, the Dempster Line will connect to popular destinations including the downtown shopping centers in Evanston and Des Plaines as well as various CTA and Metra rail lines. To prepare the corridor for Pulse, Pace is currently testing Transit Signal Priority (TSP), which helps keep buses on a reliable schedule by shortening red lights and extending green lights for buses when possible. [Learn more](#) about TSP.



The Pulse project teams are continuing to meet virtually to discuss future Pulse lines.

NEXT STEPS


Pace and CTA are continuing to meet (virtually) with community leaders and agencies. In addition, the project team is in the process of refining proposed improvements based on ongoing analysis and public input. The next public meeting will be held online and is anticipated to take place late 2020/early 2021.

Committed to YOU!

While ridership and services have been reduced due to the pandemic, Pace is committed to bringing back full service as soon as possible.

Pulse stations are **easy to find** with large vertical markers. Stations are about a ½ mile apart and most are located at major intersections.



	PULSE Milwaukee	Jefferson Park CTA Station	00:00 PM
270	PULSE Milwaukee	Jefferson Park CTA Station	8 MIN
	PULSE Milwaukee	Jefferson Park CTA Station	17 MIN
	PULSE Milwaukee	Jefferson Park CTA Station	24 MIN
270	PULSE Milwaukee	Jefferson Park CTA Station	37 MIN
	PULSE Milwaukee	Jefferson Park CTA Station	46 MIN
	PULSE Milwaukee	Jefferson Park CTA Station	54 MIN
	PULSE Milwaukee	Jefferson Park CTA Station	1 HR 09 MIN



Pulse is getting noticed! Recently, the Pulse Milwaukee Line received the Innovative Transportation Solution award from WTS Greater Chicago Chapter.



Watch for the purple Pulse bus!
On board, riders can stay connected with USB charging ports and Wi-Fi.



In the winter, riders will be able to **keep warm in the Pulse heated shelters**. The station pavement is also heated, allowing snow to melt instead of piling up on the sidewalk.

New Milwaukee Line is Continuing to Serve You

August marks the one-year anniversary of the Pulse Milwaukee Line! We thank all our community partners, riders, and businesses for their patience during construction.

The Milwaukee Line is Pace’s first in a network of proposed high frequency bus services throughout Chicagoland. It operates along Milwaukee Avenue, between Golf Mill Shopping Center in

Niles and the Jefferson Park Transit Center in Chicago. Whether you’re trying to get to the store, work, or home, the Milwaukee Line continues to provide faster, more frequent service to help you get to where you’re going.

Pace and its partners have been pleased with the early success of the Milwaukee Line. Despite the pandemic, the Milwaukee Line continues to serve thousands of passengers every week.

While most riders are choosing Pulse, Route 270 continues to provide local connections, complementing the new service.

Riders are also enjoying the new Pulse stations. Each station includes heated shelters, real-time bus arrival information, and bike racks. Pulse vehicles also enhance customer experience with on-board amenities including USB charging ports and free Wi-Fi on every bus.



What's Next for the 95th Street Line?

The Corridor Advisory Group provided input on the Pulse 95th Street Line Project Definition Report at their May 9, 2019 meeting. The completed report outlines the preliminary station locations, operating plans and capital costs. It can be viewed at [PaceBus.com/Pulse](https://www.pacebus.com/Pulse). The environmental review of this project is anticipated to kick off in 2021 and will provide opportunities for public feedback on proposed improvements.



Funding Pulse

The Pulse program is funded by a variety of sources including grants from our partnering agencies, such as the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality program administered by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning.

Driving Innovation

— The Pace Strategic Vision Plan

Pace is committed to improving your commute with innovative ideas and industry best practices. And we have big plans! From Pulse to new express services, we are continually developing solutions that help you get to your destination faster and more comfortably. With these improvements in mind, Pace is revamping our long-range vision with a new strategic vision plan called *Driving Innovation*. It will guide new and updated programs, services, facilities, bus infrastructure, technologies and many other major initiatives for the coming years. Initiatives will collectively aim to improve accessibility to public transit services through a variety of ways. Pace is committed to exploring:

- Technological improvements to streamline services
- Proposed locations for future Pulse Line projects
- Local service demands to develop a Service Standards Framework
- Strategies to increase demand in communities that desire more transit service
- Expanding partnerships with shared mobility services, communities and transportation agencies
- New capital and facility projects to grow long-term capacity

The new plan will be available at [PaceBus.com](https://www.pacebus.com) in early 2021 for public comment and will be presented to local communities benefiting from planned initiatives.



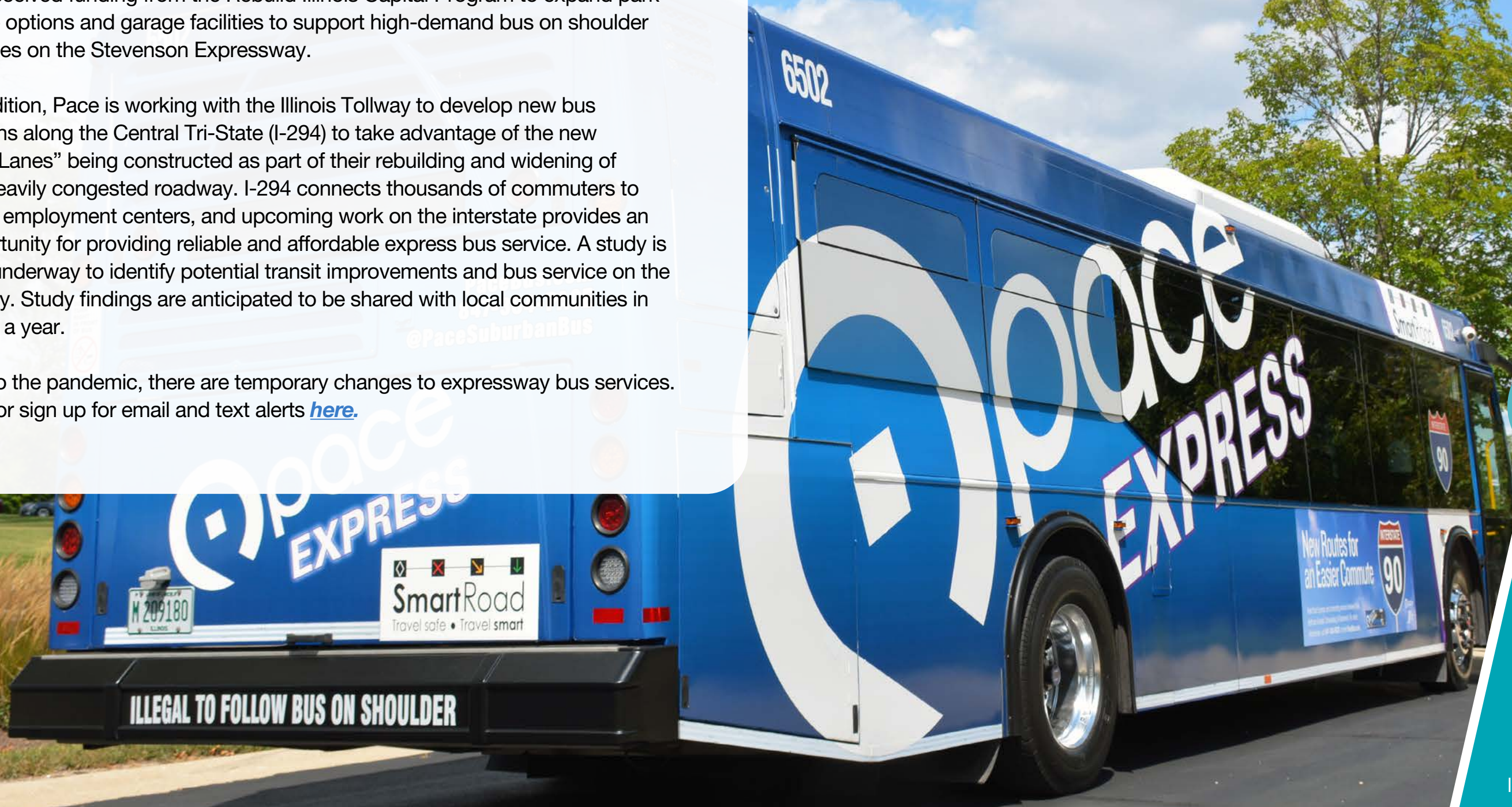
innovative
new programs
+
streamlined
services

Rapid Transit on the Expressway

Pace is planning so much more to help you get to your destination, including enhancing infrastructure for express bus services on major expressways. Pace has received funding from the Rebuild Illinois Capital Program to expand park-n-ride options and garage facilities to support high-demand bus on shoulder services on the Stevenson Expressway.

In addition, Pace is working with the Illinois Tollway to develop new bus stations along the Central Tri-State (I-294) to take advantage of the new “Flex Lanes” being constructed as part of their rebuilding and widening of this heavily congested roadway. I-294 connects thousands of commuters to major employment centers, and upcoming work on the interstate provides an opportunity for providing reliable and affordable express bus service. A study is now underway to identify potential transit improvements and bus service on the tollway. Study findings are anticipated to be shared with local communities in about a year.

Due to the pandemic, there are temporary changes to expressway bus services. View or sign up for email and text alerts [here](#).



Speak up!

If you're eager to see Pulse in your community, now's your chance to ***speak up!*** Let your local elected officials know you want ***fast, frequent, reliable bus service*** in your neighborhood. Visit your local municipal website to contact your elected officials.

Visit PaceBus.com/Pulse and sign up to receive news about upcoming meetings and other updates.

 Facebook.com/PacePulse

 Twitter.com/PacePulse