



MAY 2022

# ONBOARD

with  pace Suburban Bus



**Melinda J. Metzger**  
*Executive Director*

After a few cold and rainy months of spring, we're all looking forward to summer. Warm weather, trips to the beach or the forest preserves—and plenty of big steps towards making Pace more equitable, efficient, and environmentally sustainable.

In this newsletter, you will read about Pace's effort to convert to a zero-emission fleet. In fact, we just received our first electric bus. You will see the progress we're making on Pulse Dempster Line, our next bus rapid transit route, as well as garage improvements

that will help us better serve you. You'll see how we're adjusting fares to make transferring between transit systems easier. In short, you'll see just how busy we are building the transit system you deserve.

Early in May, Congressman Bill Foster, Governor JB Pritzker, and U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg joined Pace and other officials in Joliet to celebrate the completion of a new transit center, the first of many major infrastructure projects we've finished this year. Many more successes are on the way!



**Richard A. Kwasneski**  
*Chairman*

In addition to the capital projects and fare changes outlined in this newsletter, Pace is working hard to innovate and expand service. Where we can't run fixed route bus service, we're piloting innovative ways to serve people using smaller vehicles on more flexible schedules. Where disinvestment has left people cut off from jobs and mobility options, we're expanding service. Whenever someone reaches out with an idea or an opportunity to enhance mobility, we take their call.

I'm very proud of how well our agency works with our partners to make

improvements like these. And I'm very grateful that our legislators in Congress and the Illinois General Assembly recognize the value created by those collaborations and have trusted us with major investments we need to modernize our system.

But most of all, I am honored that you, our rider, choose to ride Pace. You're not only saving yourself money—gas is very expensive these days, after all!—but you're also doing your part in fighting our climate crisis and reducing our society's reliance on fossil fuels. Thank you for riding!



We're Driven For You

847-364-PACE  
PaceBus.com





# Thank You For Riding!

Your safety is Pace's top priority. Have you seen a 'Million Miler' patch on your driver's shoulder? Those dedicated Pace employees have a perfect safety record for at least twelve years. There's no safer way to travel in Chicagoland!



## Public Hearings on Proposed Fare Reduction

As part of a 6-month fare pilot project that started in December 2021, Pace continued to accept the 7-Day and 30-Day CTA/Pace passes at the reduced prices that were implemented by the CTA as part of their 2022 budget. Pace is now proposing to permanently accept the reduced prices of those passes, and is holding public hearings on that subject. See the dates and times of hearings below.



Scan here to register to participate in any of the six hearings

Additionally, to encourage the use of services provided by Pace, Metra, and the CTA, the following fare changes are also being proposed:

Below are the impacted passes and their reduced prices:

Fare Type	Previous Fare	Current Fare
7-Day CTA/Pace Pass	\$33	\$25
30-Day CTA/Pace Pass	\$105	\$75
30-Day CTA/Pace Reduced Fare Pass	\$50	\$35

Fare Type	Current Fare	Proposed Fare
Metra Link-Up	\$55 Valid weekdays on CTA (6:00am-9:30am & 3:30pm-7:00pm); Valid on Pace (anytime)	\$30 Valid on CTA and Pace (anytime)
Pace PlusBus	\$30 Valid on Pace (anytime)	Pass Discontinued

### PACE PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULE

With the proposed lowering of the Metra Link-Up pass price to \$30, which is the same price as the Pace PlusBus pass, and with the proposed acceptance of the Metra Link-Up pass anytime on both CTA and Pace, the Pace PlusBus pass is proposed for discontinuation.

Event	Date/Time	Location
Cook County	Thursday, May 19, 2022	Virtual, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
Lake County	Friday, May 20, 2022	Virtual, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Kane County	Friday, May 20, 2022	Virtual, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Will County	Monday, May 23, 2022	Virtual, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
DuPage County	Thursday, May 26, 2022	Virtual, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
McHenry County	Thursday, May 26, 2022	Virtual, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

## Zero Emission Transition Update

After our Board's approval in March, Pace officially ordered 20 Proterra ZX5 Max electric transit buses. This \$26 million order was purchased off the State of Georgia's existing contract with manufacturer Proterra. Our ability to tag onto that existing contract allowed Pace to expedite the procurement process, putting us ahead of our own schedule. We expect to have the first vehicles in operation by 2023.

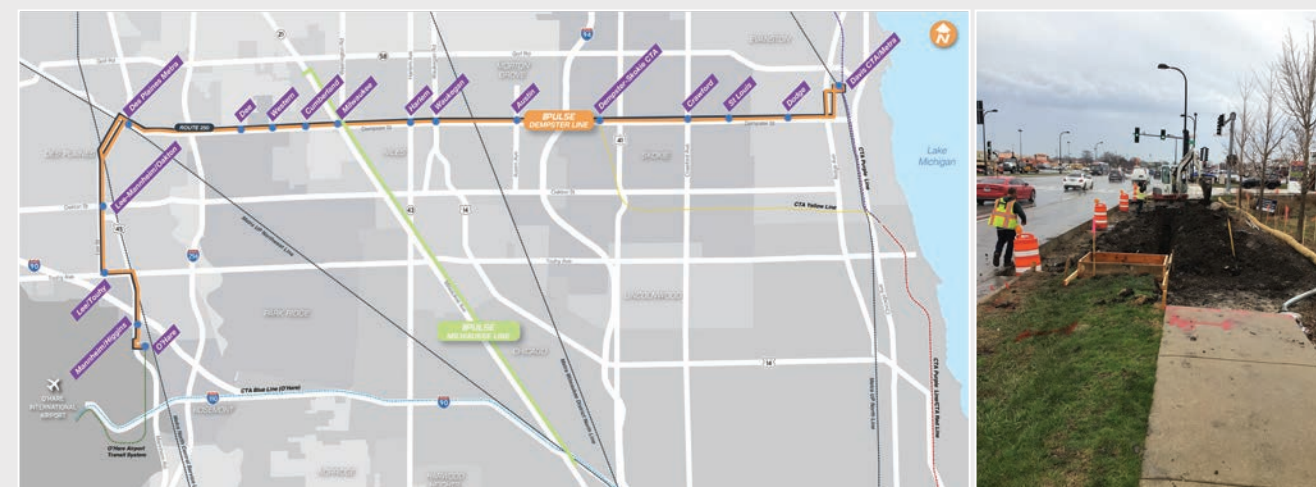


Proterra buses being built in California.

We will continue to keep you posted as this historic project moves forward! The Pace team is very excited to move our agency into the era of electrification.

## Pulse Dempster Line Under Construction

Pace's second Pulse line will operate on Dempster Street between Evanston and O'Hare International Airport. Connections to other Pace and CTA bus routes, the CTA Yellow, and Purple lines, as well as to Metra's Union Pacific North, Northwest, and North Central Service rail lines will provide passengers with a variety of local and regional travel options.



Pulse Dempster Line will be our second rapid transit line. It will operate on Dempster Street between Evanston and O'Hare International Airport. Connections to other Pace and CTA bus routes, the CTA Yellow and Purple lines, as well as to Metra's Union Pacific North, Northwest, and North Central Service rail lines will provide passengers with a variety of local and regional travel options.

lights. Other amenities like heated shelters and bus tracker signage further enhance riders' experience. This fast, frequent, reliable, and modern bus service—focused on key corridors—truly competes with car travel and will draw new riders to our system.

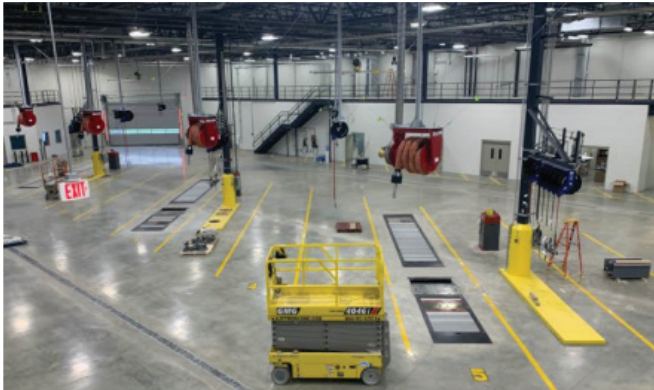
Pulse buses make limited stops at special raised stations to speed up service, and even use technology to decrease time spent at red

Station work is also beginning, with a formal groundbreaking ceremony soon to follow. Above is a map of the forthcoming Pulse Dempster Line and image of the ongoing work at one of the station sites.

# Construction Projects UPDATE

Pace continues to make progress on several construction projects. Here are some new photos of the interior construction of our Plainfield garage where in early May work has been done on doors, gates, fencing, lighting, and ceilings.

With spring here and the weather poised to (finally) warm up and dry up, we are making great progress on so many capital projects!



## Ribbon Cutting Event at the Joliet Transit Center

On Wednesday, May 4, 2022, we had the honor of hosting U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg, Governor JB Pritzker, and Congressman Bill Foster at the new Joliet Transit Center where we were able to showcase the good things that happen when leaders fund essential transportation projects. This is the first time in Pace's history that we have had the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, the Governor and a Congressman at one of our facilities!



Ribbon cutting at the Joliet Center

## What do you think?

Pace works hard to provide a safe and efficient transportation system for our customers. Let us know if you have any questions or comments to help us make your ride more enjoyable.

847-364-PACE  
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