

WINTER (2022-2023)

SUBURBAN ADA NEWS

with Pace Suburban Bus



Local, State, and Federal Officials Celebrate \$20 Million RAISE Grant for Pace Harvey Transportation Center

Improved accessibility for people with disabilities
among the planned enhancements

Officials from Pace, Metra, and local, state, and federal government gathered recently to celebrate the award of a \$20 million Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant to fund the Harvey Transportation Center reconstruction project in Harvey, IL. Once complete, the new multimodal facility will offer a significant upgrade for public transit riders in the south suburbs. The project is a partnership between Pace, Metra, and the City of Harvey.

“Pace is honored to be recognized with this grant and for the opportunity it gives us, Metra, the City of Harvey, the State of Illinois, and the people we serve,” said Pace Chairman Rick Kwasneski. “It represents equity and access to opportunity for all. More people board Pace buses right here than any other location in our region, so this project provides benefits for thousands of daily riders getting to jobs throughout northeastern Illinois.”

The improved Pace transit center benefits some of Illinois’ most historically disadvantaged communities and thus meets the standard in the Biden Administration’s Justice40 Initiative. The project reflects an intentionally inclusive economic investment through both the creation of new construction jobs and a vastly improved facility.

The existing Pace Harvey Transportation Center handles more Pace bus boardings than any other single location in the six-county northeastern Illinois region, so it is critical that these thousands of daily riders are provided a modern and comfortable facility. The funding will be used to improve the bus passenger waiting area and rebuild



(L-R) Illinois State Representative Will Davis, Pace Director & President of the Village of Phoenix Terry R. Wells; Illinois State Senator Napoleon Harris III; Congresswoman Robin Kelly; Pace Executive Director Melinda Metzger; Harvey Mayor Christopher J. Clark; Pace Chairman Rick Kwasneski; Metra Deputy Executive Director Janice R. Thomas; RTA Chairman Kirk Dillard; Metra Chair Romayne Brown; and Superintendent of the Cook County Department of Transportation & Highways, Jennifer “Sis” Killen.

it adjacent to the Harvey Metra Electric station which will also undergo major improvements. The project will ensure safer and easier transfers between Pace buses and Metra trains, will offer many rider amenities and will be accessible to people with disabilities with a dedicated area for ADA Paratransit vehicles.

The Metra portion of the project will include the rehabilitation of its Harvey Station to better integrate the station to Pace’s facility. The improvements will include a new station entrance, and waiting areas, an expanded platform, new parking, new lighting, and signs.

The Harvey Transportation Center reconstruction project is scheduled to break ground in late 2024. Passengers will continue to be able to access transit services during the construction, although detours and alternative boarding locations may be in effect. Capital improvements are a top priority for Pace. Learn more about Pace’s future plans in their strategic vision plan, Driving Innovation:
www.PaceBus.com/driving-innovation.



Message from the Suburban ADA Advisory Committee Chairman:

At the writing of this message, I want to wish everyone a happy holiday season and hope everyone stays safe.

Hopefully, during the holidays people use the pace system to get to their holiday events and/or shopping.

At the time of this message, Pace is finishing up the 2023 budget season and the budget looks to be very positive for both fixed route and Paratransit. For more details on the budget, go to Pacebus.com, where the budget is posted.

Lastly, I hope everyone has a very blessed holiday season, and for those who have loved ones with an illness, please keep them in your prayers.

Jemal Powell
Chairman, Suburban ADA Advisory Committee



Pulse Dempster Line progress continues

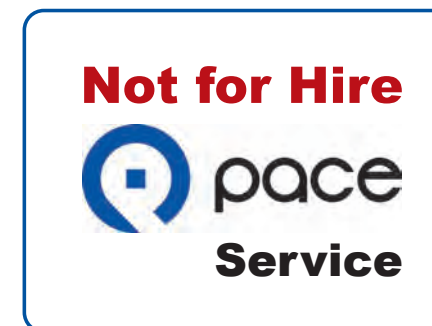
Pace is building a rapid transit project--the Pulse Dempster Line--along Dempster Street between Evanston and O'Hare Airport. This fall, station construction continues, with installation of the first "vertical marker" pylon completed at the Westbound Des Plaines Metra Station. Raised boarding platforms have been completed at 10 locations, with construction of one additional platform as well as installation of electrical cabinets, railings, benches, bicycle racks, and trash receptacles scheduled for completion in December. Underground utility work at the remaining stations is expected to continue into January 2023 in preparation for the resumption of platform construction in early spring. Every Pulse station will be ADA accessible.

New service provider now providing some Pace ADA Paratransit rides!

A service provider called UZURV (pronounced "you-serve") is now providing trips as part of Pace's family of paratransit services. Pace is making this additional option available to be able to provide as many rides as possible and in a timely fashion.

When you make a reservation for your ADA Paratransit ride you will be asked if you would accept a ride from a taxi or UZURV vehicle, in addition to our Pace ADA Paratransit buses.

To help you identify the vehicle, taxi and UZURV vehicles will display the placard with the Pace logo in their window, as shown here:



Be sure to confirm the driver is picking you up for your ride before getting into a taxi or UZURV vehicle.

If a UZURV vehicle picks you up, it will also have the UZURV logo displayed as well, as shown here:



Please note:

If you agree to be picked up by a taxi or UZURV vehicle, you will need to look for a taxi, UZURV vehicle, or ADA Paratransit bus, as we cannot confirm the vehicle type at the time of booking.

If you DO NOT want to ride with a taxi or UZURV vehicle, please provide that information when you are making your reservation. You can have that information added to your profile, in which case you will only be picked up in a Pace ADA Paratransit bus.



Safety is always Pace's top Priority

Pace is an exceptionally safe service, and we can all play a role in keeping it that way. Please be careful walking to and from your bus stop. Stay home if you feel sick. Be courteous to your operators and fellow passengers. And remember: If you see something, say something. Report suspicious activity to your operator or, in the event of an emergency, to 9-1-1.

Thank you for riding and for helping keep Pace safe for everyone!

To directly receive new information about your paratransit service, please sign up for email alerts at www.PaceBus.com.

Projects update

Calumet City ADA Transfer Facility

Pace is partnering with Calumet City to develop this new project located at 1370 Ring Road, just west of Torrence Avenue in the River Oaks area. Design for the project is now underway. The project will include space for up to 6 paratransit vehicles and a new building with a passenger waiting area and restrooms in addition to a new roadway turn-out for fixed-route service. We anticipate design being completed by spring of 2023, and the new facility being opened in 2024.



Schaumburg Northwest Transportation Center (NWTC) Transfer Facility

In 2020, Pace acquired the Post Office property at the northeast corner of Mall Drive and Kimberly Drive in Schaumburg, immediately to the west of Pace's existing Northwest Transportation Center. As part of this project, Pace will redevelop that Post Office property and combine it with Pace's existing facility. The project will include expansion of the existing commuter parking lot with additional ADA parking and electric car charging stations, relocation of the existing bus entrance drive, painting of the existing canopy structure, and construction of a new transfer facility building. The new, fully accessible building will replace a portion of the existing canopy as well as the existing driver's washroom building. The new facility which will feature an expanded drop-off area, additional landscaping and site furnishings, an interior passenger waiting area, and restrooms for both passengers and drivers. Bids for construction are currently under evaluation. We hope to begin construction later this year and be substantially completed by early 2024.



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