

PULSE

NEXT STOP

» A Stronger Future for Transit

A new era of investment in public transportation has arrived. With the passage of Illinois' historic transit funding legislation, the Northern Illinois Transportation Authority Act, Pace is moving forward with confidence — expanding mobility, strengthening service, and building a more connected future for our region.

PACE IS TAKING THESE NEXT STEPS:

- + Expand fixed-route bus service by 10% in 2026 to meet rising demand
- + Advance new Pulse Lines
- + Maintain accessibility through the Rideshare Access Program and the Taxi Access Program (TAP)
- + Expand On Demand service options
- + Invest in hybrid and zero-emission vehicles
- + Keep fares affordable for riders with no increases in 2026

These investments reflect a shared commitment to provide a transit system designed for the needs of today and to support our region's growing future.

Thank you to our state leaders, partners, and advocates for championing public transportation and helping our riders move forward.

A YEAR OF Growth

Pace is carrying momentum into the future by building on the strong progress made in 2025. Key service improvements delivered real benefits to riders.



More frequency with

100,000+
HOURS OF SERVICE ADDED
systemwide, including
future Pulse corridors.



758

NEW TRIPS ADDED
to fixed-route schedules
to close service gaps
and reduce wait times

In 2025, Pace provided about **24.9 million rides**, showing continued growth with a **7.9% increase** systemwide over 2024. Ridership continues to rebound and is now at **nearly 73% of pre-pandemic levels**.

Design in Motion

Design for the Pulse Halsted and Pulse 95th Street lines is moving forward. These new Pulse lines will bring faster, more reliable service and enhanced infrastructure to our highest ridership routes. Pulse is also designed to enhance existing Pace services and provide current fixed-route riders with comfortable stations.

Pulse will make everyday trips easier, improve access to jobs and local destinations, and support long-term mobility along two vital corridors on the Far South Side of Chicago and in the south and southwest suburbs.

Pace is engaging communities to shape these corridors together:



- + **The Corridor Advisory Groups for each project met in October 2025**, bringing local leaders, businesses, and advocates into the process to provide guidance and help Pulse meet the needs of communities served by the Pulse Halsted and 95th Street Lines.
- + Pace continues meeting riders where they are and getting real-time feedback at **pop-ups at neighborhood events**. If you see the Pulse team at an event in 2026, please stop by!
- + Pace is collaborating with local partners to provide opportunities for station designs to reflect community identity, including the design of the shelter panels.

Final designs are anticipated in 2027 with construction on both the 95th Street and Halsted lines scheduled for 2028.



Scan the QR code to learn more.

Pace is participating in the Far South Community Development Corporation's South Halsted Corridor Plan,

a land-use planning effort focused on future growth along South Halsted Street between 95th and 123rd Streets. The plan builds on the upcoming Pulse service and infrastructure, and explores opportunities for economic development and transportation improvements along the corridor.

The Pulse team connected with residents at a public meeting on November 15, 2025, and will continue engaging the community at future planning events.

HERE TO STAY

The Route 381 service expansion is here to stay on 95th Street. Originally launched as a pilot, the service increase has been made permanent, with buses operating every 15 minutes from morning to early evening on weekdays. Route 381 and the future Pulse 95th Street Line connect the CTA Red Line 95th/Dan Ryan Station in Chicago with Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills.

Outreach Continues — Tell Us What Matters to You.

Momentum is building along the **Cermak/22nd Street** corridor. The Pulse Cermak/22nd Street Line is proposed as a limited-stop service designed to improve travel times and reliability along this busy corridor. The project includes enhanced station amenities and transit-priority treatments to help buses move more efficiently. In October 2025, Pace introduced the Pulse Cermak/22nd Street Line at a public meeting where riders and community members shared valuable input on station locations and transit-priority roadway treatments. This feedback is shaping a service designed to improve mobility, reliability, and access between Cicero and Lombard, with limited-stop service at least every 15 minutes in addition to local Pace and CTA services.



On-the-Ground Engagement

Pace is out in the community, listening, learning, and connecting with riders and businesses to develop a new Pulse Cermak/22nd Street Line.

This approach helps Pace understand local patterns, challenges, and opportunities directly from our riders.



In October 2025, Pace participated in the Options Fair at Morton West High School in Berwyn, connecting with students and families planning for life beyond graduation.

Pace presented a Pulse Talk with the Berwyn Development Corporation in September 2025. Staff discussed Pulse service, infrastructure, and benefits for businesses.

Schedule a Pulse Talk!

We'll come to your organization and discuss the many benefits of Pulse

CONTACT US AT
Pulse@PaceBus.com

We want to hear from you!

This is the phase when your input matters most. It's the best opportunity to help shape a Pulse Line designed with and for the communities it serves.



Scan the QR code or visit PaceBus.com/pulse-cermak-22nd-street to share your thoughts.

IMPROVING ACCESS Near Golf Mill

The Village of Niles completed new sidewalk improvements near Golf Mill Shopping Center, which is the northern terminus of the Pulse Milwaukee Line and an important transfer location to other routes. The project provides safer pathways for riders and improves how people move between nearby destinations and the Pulse station. The project is funded by the Regional Transportation Authority's (RTA) Access to Transit program.



New sidewalks improve access to Golf Mill Shopping Center.

New hybrid buses

Pace is advancing its commitment to sustainability with the rollout of new hybrid buses on key corridors. These vehicles improve fuel efficiency, reduce emissions compared to conventional diesel buses, and provide riders with a quieter, smoother travel experience.

At the same time, Pace continues to pursue systemwide electrification as part of its long-term sustainability strategy, Project Zero. Supported by state and federal funding, Pace is upgrading infrastructure and planning for future charging investments to transition more of its fleet to zero-emission vehicles in the years ahead.



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