

SPRING 2026

SUBURBAN ADA NEWS



with Pace Suburban Bus



Project Zero

Project Zero Progress Update

At the end of last year, Pace celebrated the completion of an electric bus charging facility capable of charging 12 buses. It represents the first phase of a transformative project to modernize its North Division garage into a facility capable of charging a full fleet of battery-electric buses for service in and around Lake County.

Pace already has one electric paratransit vehicle in use in Kane County, thanks to funding secured by Congressman Sean Casten. Additional electric paratransit vehicles are being ordered and are expected to arrive in 2027.

The ribbon cutting at North Division marked the opening of Pace's first large scale bus charging depot, including two 'pantograph' chargers capable of high-speed charging. This new infrastructure is a major step toward Pace's long term goal of converting all 60 North Division buses to battery electric vehicles.

Phase One of the North Division electrification project was made possible by \$12.5 million in Rebuild Illinois funding. Additional state and federal funding, including a Community Project Funding grant from Congressman Brad Schneider and a grant from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, is supporting the purchase of electric buses for the fleet. Replacing the entire 700-bus fleet with zero-emissions vehicles is expected to cost more than \$1 billion, with charging facilities costing even more, so significant federal and state investment is needed if Pace is to meet its Project Zero goal of converting the entire fleet by 2040.



Message from the Suburban ADA Advisory Committee Chairman:

Hello friends,

With snow in our rear-view window, I hope everyone is enjoying Spring's blooming flowers, nicer temperatures, and longer days. The warmer weather also means June changes to Pace and Illinois public transportation as a whole are approaching, and I would encourage everyone to stay up to date on the Northern Illinois Transit Authority Act (NITA) news. In the meantime, enjoy the sunshine and Happy Spring!

Michael Brynda

Suburban ADA Advisory Chair

Sign up for email and text alerts about Paratransit at www.PaceBus.com/ADA

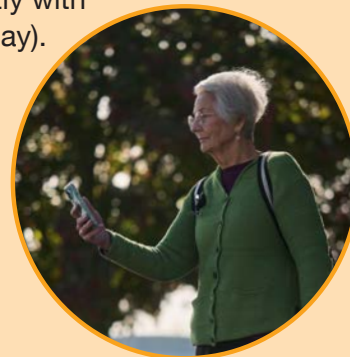


Manage Your Rides with Paratransit TripCheck

With the TripCheck portal, you can view trip information, cancel trips, and opt in and out of email, text, and phone call alerts. To get started, visit PaceBus.com/tripcheck and create a 'Profile.' With your 'My Profile,' you can get automatic email and text message alerts to include:

- **Trip booking** (sent when you book a trip).
- **Trip cancellation** (sent when you cancel a trip).
- **Imminent arrival** (sent 20 minutes before scheduled pickup time).
- **Next-day itinerary** (sent nightly with scheduled trips for the next day).

Customers can also request trip information from our system at any time. Learn more at PaceBus.com/tripcheck.



Fixed Route Service Now Free Throughout Chicagoland

All customers eligible for ADA Paratransit can ride free on CTA, Metra and Pace fixed routes. Simply tap or show your RTA Paratransit card and take advantage of the savings and convenience of traveling without the need for a reservation.



MCRide Fare Change



As of **March 1, 2026**, the MCRide dial-a-ride service in McHenry has a new fare structure.

FARE CHANGE

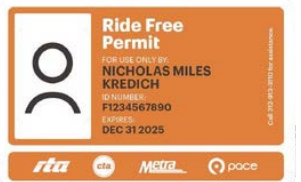
In the new system, fares for MCRide are determined based on the mileage range of a trip. For any ride five miles long or less, riders must pay \$3.00. For any trip between 5.01 miles and 10 miles, fares will be \$6.00. Finally, for any trip longer than 10 miles, fares will be \$9.00.

Seniors over 65 and riders with a disability are eligible for a reduced fare on MCRide so long as they have an active RTA Permit card. The reduced fare rate can be found on the table below.

New Fare System		
Trip Length	Standard Fare	Reduced Fare
5 miles or less	\$3.00	\$2.00
5.01 to 10 miles	\$6.00	\$4.00
More than 10.01 miles	\$9.00	\$6.00

VERIFICATION NOW REQUIRED FOR REDUCED FARE

Riders must now provide an RTA Permit card ID number to the call taker during their registration or trip reservation process in order to receive the reduced fare. This can be from a Ride Free Permit, Reduced Fare Permit, or an ADA Paratransit Permit card.



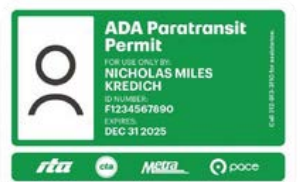
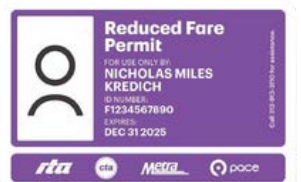
HOW TO REGISTER FOR AN RTA PERMIT CARD

Visit the RTA Discounted Fares website to register for a permit **online**.

- Website: www.rtachicago.org/riders/free-and-reduced-fare-programs
- Phone number: 312-913-3110

Visit the following locations to register for a permit **in person**

- Senior Services Associates of Crystal Lake - 4704 Three Oaks Rd, Crystal Lake, IL 60014
- Nunda Township - 3510 Bay Rd, Crystal Lake, IL 60012
- Senior Services Associates of McHenry - 3519 N Richmond Rd, Johnsburg, IL 60051
- SOAR@Dorr - 1039 Lake Ave. Woodstock, IL 60098



Questions about MCRide? Please call the McHenry County Division of Transportation at (815) 334-4981 or email mcrider@mchenrycountyil.gov

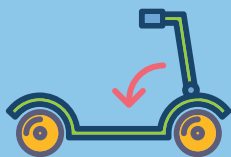


Helpful Reminders to Avoid Cancellations or No-Shows

Reminders on Bringing Devices Inside Paratransit Buses

Mobility devices such as wheelchairs, powered wheelchairs, and powered scooters with a seat are all allowed inside Pace’s paratransit buses.

All other skateboards, electric bikes and scooters that fold to dimensions about the size of a suitcase can be brought onto paratransit buses if properly stowed and powered off. Any personal electric bikes or e-scooters that do not fold are not allowed inside Pace buses, and Paratransit vehicles do not have exterior bike racks.



Devices onboard the bus are subject to the following conditions:

- The bike or scooter cannot have a gasoline or alternative fuel engine. The bike or scooter must be folded prior to boarding and remain fully folded while on board.
- The bike or scooter must remain powered off for the entire time the passenger is on board.
- As in all cases of large objects, the bike or scooter should be stored between seats or behind a barrier and under the control of the passenger to ensure the safety of all passengers.
- Bikes and scooters and their components shall never be left unattended, discarded, or abandoned.

Any personal electric bikes or e-scooters that do not fold are not allowed inside Pace buses.

For rules related to devices on Pace’s fixed route buses, see PaceBus.com/BikesOnBuses.



- Allow for a 30-minute pick-up window based on your scheduled pick-up time.
- Be within sight of the vehicle while awaiting pick up.
- Wait and be ready (5 minutes before your pick-up) to board the vehicle in your building’s lobby or curbside.
- Drivers will wait 5 minutes after arriving or 5 minutes after the pick-up time, whichever is later.
- Before leaving, the carrier will attempt to contact the customer.
- If the customer does not board within the appropriate 5-minute waiting period, the customer will be recorded as a no-show.
- When boarding a vehicle, customers must show either a valid RTA ADA Paratransit ID card or another valid photo ID card.

For more detailed information, read the ADA Paratransit Customer Guide at PaceBus.com/ADA or request a printed copy by calling 847-364-7223.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard A. Kwasneski
Chairman

Rachel Arfa
City of Chicago

Christopher S. Canning
*North Shore Suburban
Cook County*

Terrance Carr
Central Suburban Cook County

David B. Guerin
*North Central Suburban
Cook County*

Kyle R. Hastings
*Southwest Suburban
Cook County*

Thomas D. Marcucci
DuPage County

William D. McLeod
*Northwest Suburban
Cook County*

John D. Noak
Will County

Jeffery D. Schielke
Kane County

Erin Smith
McHenry County

Linda Soto
Lake County

Terry R. Wells
South Suburban Cook County

Melinda J. Metzger
Executive Director



© 2026 Pace Suburban Bus