

New timetables needed for Aug. 28 service changes

RTA bus and rail routes change four times a year. The changes outlined below take effect on Sunday, Aug. 28. New timetables are being printed and will be posted as soon as possible on www.rideRTA.com. New timetables will be available at:

- RTA's Main Office, 1240 W. Sixth St.
- Customer Service Center at Tower City

To receive a new timetable by mail, call the RTAanswerline, 216-621-9500.

Most changes will take place in the Northwest suburbs – Avon Lake, Bay Village, Fairview Park, Lakewood, North Olmsted, Rocky River and Westlake.

The #55CX, #55NX and #55SX will be restructured to form the #55X Clifton and the #55F West Shore Flyer. The #55X will operate between the Westgate Transit Center and downtown.

The #55F will provide rush-hour service in the peak direction (AM east, PM west) from Avon Lake, Bay Village and Westlake. It replaces service currently provided by the #31X Avon Lake (west of Bradley Road), #46F Westlake and #55CX Clifton-Lake, and will make limited stops on Clifton Blvd. in Lakewood and Cleveland.

In the peak of the rush hours, the #55X and #55F will each operate every 10 minutes.

The #43 Lake-Wolf will provide weekday service to Bay Village and Rocky River during times when the #55F West Shore Flyer does not operate.

The #49/49F Center Ridge is a new route that replaces the #55SX on Center Ridge Road.

The #822 Southwest Community Circulator is a new route that replaces, in part, the #53 Great Northern-Center Ridge.

New timetables will go into effect for a number of other bus routes on Aug. 28.

Timetables for these routes reflect minor schedule adjustments and/or map updates: #7/7X, #9/9X, #10, #20A, #22, #25B/W, #30, #32/32X, #35, #40, #45Y/R, #48/48A, #70, #75X, #76X, #79A/B, #81, #86, #94, #247, #326, #804 and #808.

Come to the Zoo Aug. 1

Help RTA celebrate its 30th anniversary at Family Fest, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Aug. 1, in the Palava Hut Pavilion at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

Learn more about RTA's Rack-and-Roll program, with demonstrations all day. Transit Police will be there to fingerprint children and offer safety tips.

Free entertainment: Storyteller and magician Jim Kleefeld, "Healthier Ever After" fitness trail and Sneakers the Dragon from the Children's Museum, Sparkles the Clown and facepainting.

RTA, Dancing Wheels mark major anniversaries

Two agencies linked by their service to the disabled community are marking major anniversaries.

RTA is 30 years old this year, and Dancing Wheels, a professionally integrated dance company, turns 25.

RTA now has a bus fleet that is 100 percent ADA accessible, and is continuing a multi-year renovation to make its key facilities ADA accessible. Later this year, renovations will be completed at Shaker Square and the E. 116th St. stations.

Dancing Wheels, the first group in America to feature both disabled and non-disabled artists, has traveled around the globe for 25 years with Mary Verdi-Fletcher, its president and founding artistic director. In partnership with RTA, the group presents these events, showcasing Cleveland as the birthplace of integrated dance in America.

- **Aug. 11**, Listener Lunch, Mall C
- **Oct. 1**, Silver Screening Gala, InterContinental Hotel
- **Dec. 2-4**, *The Snowman*, a family production, CCC Metro Campus

For more information, visit www.dancingwheels.org.



Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
www.rideRTA.com



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REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Mid-year report shows 5 percent ridership increase

Boosted by high gas prices, RTA ridership continues to climb. In fact, ridership has risen for eight straight quarters. The last time that happened was 1996-1998, when the Waterfront Line began operation.

Ridership for the first six months was up 4.9 percent, or 1.3 million rides, over the same period last year.

Looking at individual modes, Paratransit was up 40.5 percent, Circulators 10.4 percent, heavy rail 9.5 percent, light rail 7.7 percent and big bus 4.0 percent. These figures represent: the largest percentage increase since Circulators began operation in 1997, the largest bus ridership since 2000, largest total Red Line ridership since 2001, and the largest total Light Rail and total Rapid ridership since 2002.

RTA's average weekday ridership is now more than 197,000, up 5.5 percent from last year.

In June, Community Circulator ridership grew for the 13th straight month. June's ridership was 194,437 – about 10,000 more riders than June 2004.

The Lakewood Community Circulator continues to lead the pack, followed by Euclid, Tremont and Kamm's-Puritas.

The \$3 All-Day Pass continues to be popular, as its usage grew 7.4 percent in June.

Score extra points, ride RTA to see Browns play

The Browns play 10 home games this year, and RTA is ready to take you to each of them. RTA offers extra rail service before and after each home game, plus direct, non-stop flyer service to the Browns Stadium from five sites.

The first home games are 8 p.m. Aug. 13 against the New York Giants, and 8 p.m. Aug. 26 against the Carolina Panthers.

Rail service

Fans can ride any RTA rail line to Tower City. Riders on the Blue and Green Lines can usually stay on the train to reach the Waterfront Line, and Red Line riders can transfer to the Waterfront Line.

Waterfront Line trains will drop off riders at the West Third Street station, across the street from the Browns Stadium. Extra service begins about two hours before each game. Fans are urged to purchase a \$3 All-Day Pass, which includes unlimited ridership. All-Day Passes are available from every RTA farebox.

RTA offers more than 7,000 free parking spaces at rail stations and park-and-ride lots throughout Cuyahoga County.

After the game

As you approach the West Third Street Station, you will be directed to stand in lines marked "Green Line/Flats," "Blue Line/Flats," and "Tower City only," to designate which trains you need to reach your final destination.

If you require assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), enter the station and use

the elevator to reach the platform.

If you are traveling eastbound to the Municipal Parking Lot, walk down the stairs inside the station to reach the platform. RTA staff will direct you to the eastbound trains.

RTA supervisors and Transit Police will be at the W. Third St. Station and platform to help you. Please follow their directions.

Flyer bus service

Flyer buses leave 1.5 hours before game time. Buses at the Solon site leave 15 minutes earlier (6:15 p.m. for an 8 p.m. kickoff). After the game, fans can board the bus near the Stadium and return home. Adult round-trip fare is \$3. The service leaves from these sites.

Solon Square lot, on Aurora Road (Rt. 43) at Solon Blvd. Park in designated RTA area in the middle of the parking lot.

Strongsville Park-N-Ride lot, on the Pearl Road entrance to the Ohio Turnpike.

Brecksville Municipal Parking lot, Brecksville Road (Rt. 21), south of Royalton Road (Rt. 82).

North Olmsted Park-N-Ride lot, southeast corner of I-480 and Great Northern Blvd.

Westlake Park-N-Ride lot, on Sperry Road, near the Columbia Road exit of I-90.

For personalized scheduling, call the RTAanswerline, 216-621-9500, from 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday. Service information can be also accessed at www.rideRTA.com. For more information on the Browns, go to www.clevelandbrowns.com.

Euclid Corridor Project Introduces bus-only lanes

Portions of Superior Ave. now have bus-only lanes, as part of the Euclid Corridor Transportation Project.

Bus-only lanes will become operational throughout Superior Ave. (24 hours) and St. Clair Ave. (peak hours). Full bus-only lane operations will be completed by this fall.

Please follow these new traffic signs that are enforceable by law. Violators may be ticketed.

For more information regarding bus lane operation, log on to www.rideRTA.com

Summer Fun With RTA

This Labor Day weekend offers something for everyone – and RTA is ready to take you there. For the best value, buy a \$3 All-Day Pass with unlimited ridership.

AIR SHOW: The National Air Show flies out of Burke Lakefront Airport Sept. 3-5. Gates open at 9 a.m. and close at 4:30 p.m. Ride RTA's Waterfront Line to the North Coast or South Harbor stations.

FOOD FEST: The Taste of Cleveland runs Sept. 2-5 at the Tower City Amphitheater. Take any rail line into Tower City, and then either walk to the event, or take a Tower City shuttle.

INGENUITY: The newest kid on the block is the Ingenuity Festival of Art and Technology downtown, just a short walk from RTA's Tower City rail station. The Festival runs Sept. 1-4. Admission to many festival areas is free. The Festival site is Euclid Ave., from Public Square to E. Ninth St., and on E. Fourth St., from Euclid to Prospect.

Minor service changes set, seasonal routes end, on August 28

New timetables are being issued for the #14, #15/#15A, #15F, #19, #33 and #147, to incorporate minor route changes that are already in effect. The timetables for these routes may also contain minor schedule adjustments.

The end of summer also brings the end of two seasonal RTA bus routes. The #20C, which operates between Public Square and the Metroparks Zoo, runs through Aug. 27. The #441, which operates from the end of the Blue Line in Shaker Heights to the entrance of Geauga Lake

Park in Aurora, runs through Sept. 5.

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