



DUPAGE MAYORS AND MANAGERS CONFERENCE
an association of municipalities representing over 1,000,000 people

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For Immediate Release: July 10, 2007

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Community feedback requested on new Circulator Routes

The DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference (DMMC), in cooperation with DuPage County, announces an important opportunity for community feedback on planned new bus service in Addison, Downers Grove, Lombard, and Wheaton.

In 2002, DMMC and the DuPage County Board jointly adopted the *DuPage Area Transit Plan*. During the planning process, localized bus service – or circulators – emerged as a primary piece of mobility needed in the DuPage area. Circulators are community-based, locally-oriented bus transit services that bridge the gap between the larger bus or train routes and residential, commercial, or workplace destinations. DMMC received a grant from the Regional Transportation Authority and the Illinois Department of Transportation to initiate a DuPage Area Local Circulator Study.

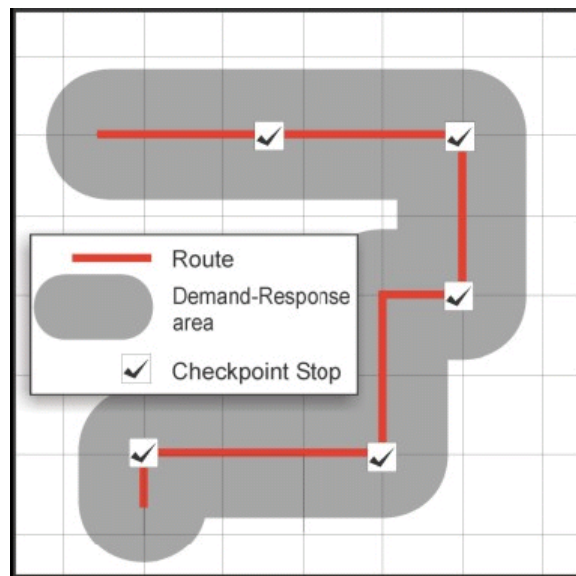
Over the past year of the study, DMMC has worked with municipalities, residents, businesses, and potential riders to develop circulator plans for several DuPage communities. Addison, Downers Grove, Lombard, and Wheaton were selected as the first communities for design of the new service. Alternative ideas for circulator services were developed based on a market analysis and input obtained through community surveys, focus groups, and public meetings.

These four communities will present draft service alternatives and invite feedback from residents, employees, and other travelers in the community. The final design of the circulator service will be based on community preferences.

Each proposed service design reflects the unique needs of the community. The proposed Addison Circulator would provide service to destinations along and near Lake Street and offer alternatives for providing service to a Metra Station. The proposed Downers Grove Circulator would coordinate with and enhance existing service provided through the Grove Commuter Service. The proposed Lombard Circulator would provide additional north-south

service and increase access to the Butterfield Road corridor. The proposed Wheaton Circulator would enhance existing Pace service to the DuPage County Government Center and provide access to Central DuPage Hospital.

The proposed circulators would introduce “flex routes” to these communities. Also known as route-deviation service, flex route transit vehicles follow a designated route but leave the route to serve origins and destinations within a specified area surrounding the route based on a scheduled request to a central dispatcher. The specified area is called a “flex-route buffer” and covers a ¼ mile area along the route (see graphic). The transit vehicles then return to the designated route to ensure that all stops along the route are served. The passengers on the bus may have a longer travel time than for traditional “fixed-route” service, and the arrival or departure time at any stop may vary by five minutes. However, the Americans with Disabilities Act-mandated complementary paratransit service is not necessary since the bus can deviate from the route to pick up disabled passengers.



More detailed information is available on the project website at www.GetaroundDuPage.org. The full Service Specification Report may be reviewed and there is a concise Executive Summary. Copies of both are also available at the Village Halls in Addison, Downers Grove, and Lombard and at the Wheaton City Hall.

Community Choice Forums will be held in Addison, Downers Grove, Lombard, and Wheaton on July 18 and 19. The meeting schedule is shown below. Everyone is encouraged to participate in the meeting in their community.

Community	Date	Time	Location
Addison	July 18	Noon to 2:00 p.m.	Addison Village Hall
Downers Grove	July 19	7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	Downers Grove Public Works Facility
Lombard	July 19	3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Lombard Village Hall
Wheaton	July 19	11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	DuPage County Government Center

At each Community Forum, staff from the municipality, DMMC, and the consulting firm of LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc. will present the circulator service alternatives and provide an opportunity for the community to express preferences for the service.

Everyone is encouraged to attend and participate in the Community Forums. For those unable to attend the Community Forum, written comments may be submitted either using the website at www.getarounddupage.org or by email to dupage@lscs.com.

Founded in 1962, the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference is a council of 34 municipalities representing over 1,000,000 people. A coalition of cities and villages, the Conference offers the municipal perspective on local, regional, state, and national issues. It also serves its members and the region by fostering intergovernmental cooperation. The Conference is a non-profit organization supported by membership dues and grants.

RTA's Regional Technical Assistance Program (RTAP) was created to help communities with preliminary transit planning. RTAP's goal is to initiate activities that result in a more comprehensive transit system. Through RTAP, RTA accepts applications from communities and community groups for projects that support better access to transit services and increased transit usage, resulting in a consolidated program of projects that benefit both local communities and the RTA transit system.

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