For immediate release

August 19, 2024

**Rockford Mass Transit District Announces Fall Service Improvements**

The Rockford Mass Transit District (RMTD) is excited to announce a number of changes to its fixed route service to insure easier access and more coverage for customers. The changes are scheduled to go into effect on Sunday, September 1, 2024.

The changes will include routing changes on several routes to provide direct access to the new Hard Rock Casino, AMC Movie theater, Rockford University, and both the Linden & Sandy Hollow Road corridors between Alpine and Mulford. As part of the changes, RMTD will be making a change to the #19 CherryVale route Monday through Saturday daytime to extend the route west from the CherryVale Mall along the Harrison corridor and then south on 11th Street to the Rockford Airport. The route extension will serve the AAR and RVC Aviation Center sites along with the RFD terminal, UPS, and Amazon at the airport. Additionally, RMTD will be making a change to the #36 Perryville/Alpine route to serve Javon Bea Hospital on Riverside weekday evenings and will also expand service on the route to operate Sundays.

RMTD will also be making a fare change to make it easier for K-12 students riding the fixed route system to participate in the Student Free Rides Program. Students in elementary and middle school grades K-8 will no longer be required to display a student ID to ride the fixed route system for free. K-8 students ages 5-14 can now simply ride any RMTD bus for free. RMTD will now only require a valid student ID for high school students grades 9-12 to ride RMTD buses for free. With the elimination of the $0.75 child/student fare, individuals 15 years old and above without a high school or RMTD issued student ID will be required to pay the $1.50 full fare. Children under the age of 5 will continue to ride free when accompanied by an adult.

The service changes are a result of ongoing rider and community feedback that RMTD has received. RMTD anticipates the changes will improve access to employment, educational, health and retail opportunities for the community, while further helping to eliminate transportation barriers for those who are challenged with them.

A full list of fall service and fare changes is attached and can also be reviewed at [www.rmtd.org](http://www.rmtd.org).

For more information please contact:

 RMTD Executive Director, Michael Stubbe @ 815.961.9000

 RMTD Marketing and Communications Specialist, Orlando Toatley @ 815.961.2226

**Fall Service Changes – Effective 09-01-24:**

1) #11 E. State (Monday-Saturday Daytime)

* Route changes: Minor route changes to serve the Hard Rock Casino on the Outbound trip and the Rockford University Campus on both Inbound & Outbound trips.
* Schedule changes: Minor schedule changes on trips between E.State/Lynmar to ESTC.

2) #12 Charles (Monday-Saturday Daytime)

* Route change: Minor route change on the Outbound trip to operate Alpine to Manchester to Harrison. Transfers available to #19 & 20 routes at Manchester between Alpine/Harrison

3) #14 7th Street (Monday-Saturday Daytime)

* Route change: Minor route change on the Inbound trip to serve Schnuck’s 11th St. via 11th Plaza, Hanson, Pershing.

4) #16 City Loop North (Monday-Saturday Daytime)

* Route change: Minor route change to serve Farm & Fleet via Riverside, McFarland, Hangar Rd., Galleria, Rock Valley Pkwy., Bell, Riverside. Transfers available to the #18 route at Joesten/Hangar.
* Schedule Changes: Minor schedule change between Material Ave. and Javon Bea Hospital.

5) #18 Bell School (Monday-Saturday Daytime)

* Route changes: Route change north of Spring Brook to operate the north loop via McFarland, Hangar Rd., Galleria, Rock Valley Pkwy., Bell (UW Cancer Center), Spring Brook. Also, minor route changes to serve RVC south campus stop, Hard Rock Casino, AMC Theatre and NIU Rockford. Transfers available to the #16 route at Joesten/Hangar (Farm & Fleet) and #17 route at RVC south campus stop.
* Schedule changes: Schedule changes for the north loop route change and service to RVC campus.

6) #19 CherryVale (Monday-Saturday Daytime) – New Name: **#19 CherryVale/Harrison**

* Route changes: Route extended from Mall to operate to Rockford Airport via Charles, Mulford, Harrison, 11th, Sandy Hollow, Kishwaukee, Airport Rd., Beltline, Cessna. Replaces #20 service on Harrison between Alpine and Stowmarket. Route serves Hard Rock Casino, Schnuck’s CherryVale, Main Post Office, Collins, Aldi’s 20th St., Schnuck’s 11th St., Kmart Site on Sandy Hollow, RFD Terminal, UPS, Amazon, AAR/RVC Aviation Center. Transfers available to the #12 & 20 routes at Manchester between Alpine/Harrison, #14 & 15 at Sandy Hollow/Kmart, and #7 route Outbound at Amazon & Inbound at UPS.
* Schedule changes: New schedule for route extension.

**Fall Service Changes (continued):**

7) #20 Alpine Crosstown (Monday-Saturday Daytime)

* Route changes: Route change to serve Linden Road & Sandy Hollow Road corridors between Alpine and Mulford – includes direct access to Dollar General, PCI, Beacon Hill/Great Oaks Apts. and Greater Rockford Auto Auction. Service to Harrison between Alpine and Stowmarket eliminated and replaced with new service from the #19 route. Transfers available to the #12 & 19 routes at Manchester between Alpine/Harrison
* Schedule Changes: Minor schedule changes between E. State/Lynmar and Jefferson/RVC

8) #32 E. State (Monday-Friday Evening)

* Route changes: Route will operate the same as the #42 E. State Sunday route serving CherryVale Mall and Eastside Transfer Center (ESTC) Outbound in place of the #36 Perryville/Alpine. Minor route changes to serve Hard Rock Casino and AMC Theatre on the Outbound trips and Rockford University Campus on the Inbound & Outbound trips. Also, minor route change through downtown Rockford to operate on State Street Inbound & Outbound instead of Chestnut and Jefferson.
* Schedule changes: Schedule changes: Minor schedule changes on trips between E.State/Lynmar and ESTC.

9) #35 Kishwaukee/7th Street (Monday-Friday Evening)

* Route change: Minor route change Inbound to serve Schnuck’s 11th St. via 11th Plaza, Hanson, Pershing. Also, minor route change through downtown Rockford to operate on Chestnut Outbound and Jefferson Inbound instead of State Street.

10) #36 Perryville/Alpine (Monday-Friday Evening)

* Route changes: Change route from McFarland/Rote to Newburg/Mulford to operate Rote, Perryville, Argus, Trainer, Puri Pkwy., Mulford Vilage Dr., Mulford, Newburg. Also, minor route change to serve Javon Bae Hospital on Riverside. Service to Walmart on Walton Dr, CherryVale, & ESTC eliminated and replaced by service from #32 E. State route. Transfers to the #32 available at Mulford Village or E. State/Lynmar and the #34 route at Rockford Career College.
* Schedule changes: Schedule changes between Riverside/Alpine and Rockford Career College.

11) #42 E. State (Sunday)

* Route changes: Minor route changes to serve Hard Rock Casino and AMC Theatre on the Outbound trips and Rockford University Campus on the Inbound & Outbound trips. Also, minor route change through downtown Rockford to operate on State Street Inbound & Outbound instead of Chestnut and Jefferson.
* Schedule changes: Minor schedule changes on trips between E.State/Lynmar and ESTC.

**Fall Service Changes (continued):**

12) #45 Kishwaukee/7th Street (Sunday)

* Route change: Minor route change Inbound to serve Schnuck’s 11th St. via 11th Plaza, Hanson, Pershing. Also, minor route change through downtown Rockford to operate on Chestnut Outbound and Jefferson Inbound instead of State Street.

13) #46 Perryville/Alpine (Sunday - NEW)

* Route changes: New Sunday service will operate the same as #36 Evening with same changes noted above. Sunday route will not serve RVC, but will serve Costco after serving Javon Bae Hospital on Riverside.
* Schedule changes: New Sunday schedule.

14) Minor Sunday service schedule extension for the #41, 42, 43, 44 & 45 routes:

* The #41, 42, 43, 44 & 45 routes will operate one additional scheduled trip (1 hour). The last roundtrip will depart from the downtown transfer center at 5:15pm instead of 4:15pm.

15) Early morning and early evening circulator trips between City of Rockford and Rockford Airport (Saturday and Sunday – NEW)

* Route changes: Two new routes will operate 2 trips in the early morning and 2 trips in the early evening serving corridors in the City of Rockford similar to the Sunday #41, 42, 43, 44 & 45 routes to provide access to the Amazon Air site at the Rockford Airport.
* Schedule changes: New Sunday schedule.

**Fall Fare Changes – Effective 09-01-24:**

* Adult Fare of $1.50 (Ages 15 & above).
* Children 14 & Under Ride Free:
	+ Children under 5 must be accompanied by an Adult.
	+ Children Ages 5-14/K-8th No Student ID required.
* Elimination of $0.75 Child Fare. Includes elimination of Child 10 Ride Tickets and Child Half-Fare All Day Pass.
* Students 9-12th Grade (Ages 15-18) Ride Free with School ID or RMTD Student ID.
	+ RMTD Student ID issued Free. Replacements $2.00.
* Elimination of the $0.25 CherryVale Zone Fare (Zone Fare for Paratransit trips also eliminated).