



Written by: Jerome Parker, General Manager  
Gary Public Transportation Corporation

Media Contact: David W. Wright,  
Planning & Marketing Manager  
Gary Public Transportation Corporation  
(219) 885-7555 Ext. 204  
PlanningManager@gptcbus.com

**For Immediate Release**

## **Letter to the Editor**

*Gary Public Transportation Corporation begins a new and better schedule on September 8, 2020.*

**As our state continues to reopen, we're excited to announce Gary Public Transportation Corporation (GPTC) will begin a new and improved bus schedule on Tuesday, September 8, 2020.**

To safely meet the public transportation needs of the 10 communities we serve, this updated schedule provides more frequent bus service with fewer transfers for public transit riders in Northwest Indiana.

**The Broadway Metro Express (Bmx) will have three additional stops, which include Lake County Government Building; Adam Benjamin Jr. VA Outpatient Clinic; and Purdue Research Park/Ivy Tech Campus.** With the new and better schedule, it is now just one trip from Gary to Crown Point and from Crown Point to the South Shore Line, and the R6 (Ivy Tech/South Broadway Shuttle) will be suspended as a separate route. Trips on the Bmx will run every 30 minutes and we plan to increase trips to every 20 minutes as ridership grows.

**The R2 U.S. 30 Shuttle will continue to run hourly service on weekdays and Saturdays to provide more frequent trips where riders need it most.**

To maintain a local bus system that best serves the Region, the upgrades to the bus system's service schedule are driven by data reflecting our 10 communities' needs, along with ongoing input from our riders. GPTC's goal is to improve connectivity in the busiest areas of Northwest Indiana while increasing access to local trains such as the South Shore Line, and beyond. This schedule will create a more convenient and direct route to and from many locations most requested by our riders.

With utmost concern for the safety and protection of riders, drivers, staff, and community, please know there are additional services and safeguards in place to help you stay healthy and safe. Our staff continues to clean and sanitize buses daily, along with cycle cleaning to regularly sanitize all high-touch surfaces. For the convenience of our guests, we have installed hand sanitizer dispensers on our buses. Soon, we will also install driver shields and sanitizing wipe dispensers in our public transit fleet.

We request riders follow Governor Holcomb's recent mandate—protective face coverings are required on all GPTC properties and buses. If you need a mask while riding with GPTC, please ask one of our friendly staff members and we will provide you with a mask for free. We ask that all riders continue to practice safe social distancing and exit the bus using the rear door, if able. For cleaner, touchless boarding, you are encouraged to purchase bus passes on smartphones with the Token Transit app. You can easily pay for these mobile tickets using a credit, debit, or commuter benefits card.

As we take you home, to work or school, to the doctor, or even for a fun outing with a visit to a great local restaurant, we will continue to operate safe and efficient public transportation services. On behalf of our dedicated, hard workers who keep the Region moving each day, we all look forward to seeing you on the bus.

Sincerely,

Jerome Parker  
General Manager  
Gary Public Transportation Corporation



To find a route near you or to view the most up-to-date information on route schedules, please visit: [www.garytransit.com](http://www.garytransit.com).

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*GPTC provides fixed-route transit in Gary and nine other communities in Northwest Indiana. GPTC also provides complementary curb-to-curb paratransit service to those who are, due to a disability, unable to use its fixed-route service. Follow GPTC on Twitter (@GaryTransit) and on Facebook (keyword "GaryTransit") for service alerts and announcements. Call 219.884.6100 x 0 or message the GaryTransit Facebook page for questions.*