



# Rider Notice

1/15/09

## SERVICE CHANGES EFFECTIVE MONDAY February 2, 2009

In November, 2008 proposed changes to SouthWest Transit service were put forth for public comment. At the December 18 SWT Commission Meeting, SWT staff presented comments received to the Commission. The Commission approved all proposed changes, with new schedules to take effect Monday, February 2, 2009.

### All Express Routes

- Downtown routing will remain the same as on current 11/17/08 schedules for all Express routes except Route 684. See below for details.
- Scheduled times for express riders both eastbound and westbound will see modifications to better reflect current driving conditions, changes in the downtown zone and new ridership patterns.
- Better spaced westbound starting times will provide more consistency in downtown timings. Be aware, though, that weather, traffic conditions and construction all affect how closely the driver can follow the schedule.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. & 11<sup>th</sup> St. has been added to the schedule as a time point. There is a shelter at this stop. Buses will still stop at 11<sup>th</sup> St. & Marquette.
- SWT buses will make **no stops along 3<sup>rd</sup> St.** Transfer to light rail in the downtown zone.
- **THE LAST EASTBOUND ROUTE** will be Route 690U leaving SWS at 7:20 pm.
- **THE LAST WESTBOUND ROUTE** will be Route 694 leaving Oak & Washington at 9:23 pm.

SWS = SouthWest Station SWV = SouthWest Village EC = East Creek

### Eden Prairie Express Route Highlights

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| 681 &<br>683 | • These routes, along with local Route 631, have been combined into Route 684. See Reverse Commute/Southdale highlights below.  |
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| 690<br>690U  | • With the addition of eastbound Route 695 servicing SouthWest Station, several 690 runs which currently service the U of M at about the same time as Route 695 will now terminate at Gateway.<br>• Buses designated as 690U will service the U of M.<br>• Note that the start times for many of the westbound 690/690U have been altered to provide more consistency (5 or 10 minutes between buses), similar to our AM eastbound schedule.  |
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| 695          | • To better utilize this direct service to the U of M, the eastbound 695 will now stop at SW Station. Starting times at EC and SWV have been adjusted to accommodate this additional stop.<br>• At SW Station the 695 will depart from GATE C (nearest the parking ramp).<br>• There will no longer be a dedicated shuttle service when the U is not in session. Riders going to SWS will be able to use various routes as shuttles to connect with any 690 or 698 at those times. Some westbound Chaska-Chanhassen routes (694, etc) will now start at the U of M. |
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*See other side.*

### **Chaska, Chanhassen, Victoria Express Route Highlights**

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681B • Route 681 has been combined with Route 684 which will service SWV and EC.

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695 • See above.

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696 • For those of you who have encountered standing-room only on the westbound 696 at 4:08 pm, the 699 (see below) will offer another option to East Creek.

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698 • The current eastbound 698 at 9:15 am (EC) and 9:22 (SWV) duplicates service with the 695 at about the same time. This run has been changed to a Route 690 leaving SWS at 9:30 and will no longer service EC or SWV.

- An option will be to ride the 695 at 9:00 (EC) or 9:10 (SWV) to SWS to catch an eastbound route.
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699 • This new route will service SouthWest Village and East Creek only.

- One eastbound route at 7:35 am will consolidate some service from these two locations.
  - One westbound route at 4:22 pm will start at 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. & 4<sup>th</sup> St. and should alleviate much of the standing we've seen at this time of day.
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698S • These 3 shuttles have been discontinued. The new schedule provides several options to reach SWS to  
690S make connections to buses express to downtown Minneapolis.

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### **Reverse Commute Route (formerly Southdale Service schedule) - Routes 631, 681, 683**

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684 • Routes 631 and 683 (Southdale schedule) and express 681 have been combined into Route 684

- Six westbound departures between 5:00 am and 9:30 am from Gateway.
  - Nine eastbound departures between 9:25 am and 5:10 pm beginning at East Creek.
  - Westbound routing: Gateway → 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave → 12<sup>th</sup> St → 35W & Lake St → Southdale → Shady Oak → Washington Ave → W 76<sup>th</sup> St → Golden Triangle → Viking Dr → Prairie Center Dr → SouthWest Station → SouthWest Village → East Creek Station
  - Eastbound routing: East Creek Station → SouthWest Village → SouthWest Station → Prairie Center Dr. → Viking Dr. → Golden Triangle → W 76<sup>th</sup> St. → Washington Ave → Shady Oak → Southdale → 35W & Lake St. → 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. → Gateway
  - Note that this route will service 35W & Lake St, but **not Uptown**
  - The Southdale routing will not service Fairview
  - This route will be shown on both Express schedules and on a separate "Reverse Commute" schedule. There will no longer be a "Southdale" schedule.
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### **Route 636**

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- Due to low ridership and high cost, Route 636 will be cancelled effective February 2, 2009.
  - Connections can still be made between EC, SWV and SWS using several different routes, including 695 and 684.
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### **Route 631**

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- This route has been combined with Routes 681 and 683 into new Reverse Commute Route 684. See above for details.
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### **Route 603**

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- No changes.
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