



Rider Notice

March 23, 2009

PROPOSED INTERIM SERVICE CHANGES PUBLIC COMMENT IS INVITED

SouthWest Transit is proposing the following interim changes to its service effective Tuesday, May 26, 2009. SWT receives two-thirds of our funding from Motor Vehicle Sales Taxes (MVST). Because of the sharp decline in motor vehicle sales, we are currently facing a \$1.3 million shortfall in funding, and are looking at ways to balance our budget with as little inconvenience as possible to our riders and our staff. As our funding situation improves, we will review any suspended routes and attempt to return them to service.

We invite comments from the public. Comments will be accepted via telephone (952-949-2287), fax (952-974-7997) or email (customerservice@swtransit.org) until 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2009. A Public Comment Meeting will be held at that time at SouthWest Station. Schedules will be presented to the SouthWest Transit Commission for final approval at its April 23 meeting. *See the proposed schedule at www.swtransit.org.*

Express Route Highlights - *Downtown routing would not change*

- 690** • Several eastbound and westbound 690 trips would be changed to Route 690U and service the U of M.
- There would be a 690U leaving Oak & Washington at 4:14 pm.
- The current westbound 690 leaving 3rd Ave. & 4th St. at 4:25 pm would become a 698 and still service SouthWest Station.
- Due to low ridership, the westbound 690 at 5:36 pm would be suspended.
- 692** • Due to low ridership, the eastbound 692 leaving Market at 6:55 am would be suspended.

SEE OTHER SIDE

- 695 • All eastbound and westbound direct express service to the U of M would be suspended for the summer. Selected express routes would be extended to and from the U to provide more options for riders who still need transportation to the U during the summer.
- 697 • Route 697 currently leaving Oak & Washington at 5:22 pm would become Route 698 and would not service Clover Field or Bavaria Rd. stops.
- 698 • The current westbound 690 leaving 3rd Ave. & 4th St. at 4:25 pm would become a 698, providing more service to SouthWest Village and East Creek.
- 699 • Westbound 699 would be suspended.

REVERSE COMMUTE ROUTE

- 684 • The stops at 35W and Lake St. will be closed from May through August due to construction. Passengers will need to board downtown along 3rd Ave. or at Southdale. (Metro Transit's High Frequency Route 6 provides service between Downtown Minneapolis, Uptown and Southdale.)
 - The first westbound 684 would leave Gateway at 4:45 am and would arrive before 6 am for early morning work start times in Eden Prairie, Chanhassen and Chaska.
 - Due to low ridership, several trips during the mid-day would be suspended.
 - WB from Gateway - 8:30 am, 9:30 am
 - EB beginning at East Creek - 9:25 am, 10:40 am, 11:55 am, 1:25 pm, 3:55 pm
 - Times on the last two eastbound 684 trips would be adjusted to better accommodate ridership.

ROUTE 693 - Saturday Service

- **Route 693 would be suspended.**

SWT has done its best to plan time adjustments and consolidations of express routes to specific trips where low ridership coincides with high frequency. In most instances, there is an option to reach the same destination within five minutes of the eliminated or modified trip.