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Windham Region Transit District

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www.wrtd.org

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Press Release

WRTD Schedule and Route Change Proposal 2019 Why are we doing this? What is being proposed?

Why are we doing this?

Over the last year a variety of factors have led WRTD staff to believe it would be beneficial to alter the existing bus routes in order to better serve its existing and potential future riders.

- Existing schedules are not easy to understand, particularly with all their special exceptions from a standard route
- Ridership has dropped on many routes indicating the current routes may not be meeting needs as well as they used it
- Ridership continues to be strong connecting Mansfield Center near the Windham town line to UConn campus, even during campus breaks
- United Services moved their services to a new location on North Frontage Road and need transit service

No additional funds are available to expand the service hours or change the area covered by the routes.

What is being proposed?

The schedule and route changes cover three of the four fixed routes that WRTD operates. No changes are being proposed for the Willimantic-Norwich Route 32 Commuter Route (674). The following summarizes the main changes. A more detailed list of changes are available in the "List of Route Changes".

City Bus Local Route (671)

- Divide the existing route which has two distinct areas into two separate routes
 - o The existing line that services Windham Heights would become "City Bus Heights"

- The existing line that services High St/ ECSU would become "City Bus Central" with a few minor route changes
- Add the new United Services facility on North Frontage Road
- More regular arrival times along the route

Storrs-Willimantic Local Route (672)

- Divide the existing route into three distinct variations
 - A - Gateway Commons to Four Corners
 - B - Foster Drive at City Line to UConn Whitney/ East Campus
 - C - Gateway Commons to South Eagleville Road and Mansfield Transportation Center
- Prioritize connections from Mansfield Center near the Windham town line to UConn campus during peak travel periods
- Make more regular connections to destinations off South Eagleville Road such as the Mansfield Senior Center

Willimantic-Danielson Commuter Route (673)

- Extend the existing route slightly on both ends of the routes to enable riders to better reach their destinations from both ends of the route.
- Delay the second run of the day by one hour

More information about proposed schedules and routes are available online at www.wrtd.org and can be mailed upon request.

Details about the public hearing will be announced in the following locations and others:

- The Chronicle newspaper
- WRD Website – www.wrtd.org
- Posters on WRD Buses
- WRD Facebook Page - www.facebook.com/WRTDCT/
- WRD Twitter Page - <https://twitter.com/wrtdct>
- Email sent to WRD newsletter subscribers (sign up on our website)

If you have questions, please email info@wrtd.org or call 860-456-2223.