



## SMART requires masks for riders and makes minor route adjustments

- SMART will require all riders to wear masks starting immediately
- Next round of service adjustments are effective Monday, April 27 includes late night service cuts and other minor routes adjustments
  - Includes several major routes (complete list below): 200, 261, 450/460, 461/462, 510, 560, 561/563 and 610
- SMART provides critical service for those who have to make essential trips only
- Anyone who is sick should not leave the house or ride transit
- Updates on SMART service can be found at [www.smartbus.org](http://www.smartbus.org)

**April 24, 2020, Detroit, Mich.** – Starting Monday, April 27, SMART will eliminate many late night trips on its weekday, Saturday and Sunday schedules. In addition, Sunday service has been reduced to operate every 60 – 90 minutes. These latest adjustments are part of our continued efforts to ensure essential trips to work and other life-sustaining activities can be provided reliably, while maintaining full staff response capabilities as conditions or needs change.

Riders should check [www.smartbus.org](http://www.smartbus.org) to verify the trips which have been affected and the new schedule lookup for the following routes:

125 Fort Street	495 John R
200 Michigan	510 Van Dyke
261 FAST Michigan	560 Gratiot
280 Middlebelt	561/563 FAST Gratiot
330 Grand River	610 Kercheval
415 Greenfield	710 Nine Mile
450/460 Woodward Avenue	730 Ten Mile
461/462 FAST Woodward Avenue	760 Thirteen/Fourteen Mile

SMART has made several route adjustments to reflect the approximately 80 percent reduction in ridership since mid-March, and continues to monitor trends for employers and employees alike to ensure service can meet the demand. Currently, there is low to no ridership on these late night routes, and these adjustments will allow SMART to better balance the daytime service on higher ridership routes.

“Our reduced ridership has held steady over these past few weeks, even after two service reductions and several weeks of the Stay Home, Stay Safe order,” said Robert Cramer, Deputy General Manager, “The vast majority of these remaining riders are headed to and from essential jobs or on trips for life-sustaining supplies, medication and treatments. Our mission for the coming weeks is to keep a reliable option for those trips in place while reminding riders to follow social distancing guidelines and wear appropriate face coverings. Working closely with our drivers, we are eliminating late night service and scaling back Sunday service while increasing drivers and buses available to fill in on daytime routes that are still seeing significant ridership.”

In addition, starting immediately SMART requests riders to adhere to the Governors Executive Order which ‘Requires people to wear homemade, non-medical grade face coverings when they

enter enclosed public spaces.’ SMART has already required its drivers to wear a mask or face covering while operating a vehicle; this new policy will further ensure the safety of all our riders and drivers and allow SMART to provide reliable transportation to meet the demand and need for essential trips and essential workers. SMART has already instituted a similar policy for its Connector paratransit riders including health screenings of passengers prior to pick up. Connector service is an essential service for many who are unable to use fixed route buses to get to dialysis treatments as well make other critical trips for groceries and medications.

**Do Your Part to Limit the Spread of COVID-19**

SMART service is for those riders making essential trips as defined by the Governor’s Executive Order. SMART continues to take active steps to prevent the spread of the virus and riders have a responsibility to consider the health not only of themselves but for our drivers and riding public. If you are ill or experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19 – stay home, and do not ride public transit.

SMART continues with the following initiatives to help prevent the spread of the virus, until further notice: free fare, rear-door boarding, and yellow chain separating drivers from passengers, mask requirement of all drivers, nightly bus cleaning and regular electrostatic spraying of all buses.

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*Serving residents since 1967, SMART is southeast Michigan’s only regional public transportation provider, offering convenient, reliable and safe transportation for Macomb, Oakland and Wayne Counties. SMART’s Fixed Route and small bus services connect people to employment and educational institutions, medical appointments and shopping centers. For routes and fare information, visit [smartbus.org](http://smartbus.org).*