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Free Shuttle Adds Larger, More Accessible Vehicle

The Oak Park Shuttle has replaced one of its five-passenger vans with a new 11-passenger vehicle that offers easier access – especially for elderly passengers and those with wheelchairs.

PACE, the suburban bus system operator, is providing the larger vehicle in recognition of the shuttle's success attracting riders. The new vehicle will allow riders to stand up when walking to seats and people using wheelchairs to enter and exit curbside rather than through a rear door as is necessary with the smaller vehicle.

The new shuttle is likely to be especially appreciated beginning Fri., Nov. 26 when hours will be extended to 9:30 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays to encourage shopping in local business districts. The extended holiday hours will remain in effect through Friday, Dec. 30, except Christmas Eve. Regular shuttle hours of 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. will remain in effect for Sunday through Wednesday, including Christmas Eve. The Shuttle does not operate on Thanksgiving, Christmas or New Years Day.

A Village-sponsored, free transit service, the shuttle route includes 21 stops at 30-minute intervals along an eight-mile course that includes easy access to key mass transit train, elevated and bus routes. The larger vehicle will operate as Shuttle No. 2, which starts at 10:30 a.m. at Stop 1 located at the Green Line Station on South Boulevard at Oak Park Avenue and ends there at 5:30 p.m. on regular days, and 9:30 p.m. during the extended holiday hours.

Riders can board a shuttle at any of the stops, all of which are marked by signs including a route map, a list of attractions near each stop and the arrival time of each of the two vans. In addition to times and stops, the maps note nearby mass transit connection options.

For the most up-to-date route information, to seek assistance, ask questions or make comments call 615.1830. A route map and schedule also is available on the Village website, www.oak-park.us – click on the news tab, then the shuttle icon along the right margin.

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