Notice of Public Hearing Workshops

Delaware Transit Corporation (DTC) is hosting four Public Hearing Workshops to gain input and comments on proposed changes to DART Statewide Bus Services to become effective Sunday, May 18, 2025.

Tuesday, March 18-2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Rehoboth Beach Public Library 226 Rehoboth Avenue Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

Wednesday, March 19-4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Dover Public Library Multi-Purpose Room "A" 35 Loockerman Plaza Dover, DE 19901

Thursday, March 20- 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Wilmington Library - The Commons 10 East 10th Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

Thursday, March 20- 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

Red Clay Adult Education Center 50 Hillside Road Wilmington, DE 19807

Beginning March 10, 2025 a summary of proposed changes and service proposals will be available for review online at <u>www.DartFirstState.com</u>, at the reception desks of DART Administrative Offices in Wilmington and Dover, and the Lewes Transit Center, as well as the Wilmington, Dover and Georgetown Public Libraries. For information on an alternative format, please call (302) 760-2827. In addition, a pre-recorded presentation will be available for viewing online at <u>www.DartFirstState.com</u> beginning the week of March 10th before the public hearing workshops begin on Tuesday, March 18, 2025.

Each workshop will begin with an open house format (approx. 15 mins.), allowing attendees to view proposed schedules, interact with staff, receive clarification, and fill out comment forms. The remainder of the workshop will include a presentation of the proposed service changes, then a question-and-answer period, followed by public testimony for those wishing to provide public comments. The public comment portion will be transcribed by a hearing reporter, and time will be allotted for anyone wishing to make private testimony directly to the hearing reporter.

Comments can also be submitted through email at DOTDTCWeb@delaware.gov, online comment form (through DART's website at www.DartFirstState.com/publichearing), calling 1-800-652-DART (3278), option 2, or mailing to: DART Public Hearing, 119 Lower Beech St., Wilmington, DE 19805-4440. All comments must be received by March 24, 2025.

If an accommodation such as an interpreter for the hearing impaired or a language translator is needed,

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please call (302) 760-2827, at least one week in advance.

Summary of proposed changes by County:

New Castle County

Schedule adjustments are proposed to improve on-time performance, connections, and service reliability to many routes in New Castle County on all service days. Please refer to the proposed schedule for specific trip time changes.

Route 2 - Weekday evening service would be improved by an additional trip at 10 PM from Brandywine Town Center to Wilmington in response to employees who work along the SR 202 Corridor.

Route 5 - Select morning trips headed toward Christiana Mall and PM trips headed toward Wilmington would provide direct service to Fairplay Station to accommodate J.P. Morgan employees. To meet SEPTA train arrivals (2 trips, 7:01 AM and 8:43 AM) and train departures (3 trips, 4:04 PM; 5:10 PM; and 6:23 PM), these trips would not serve Christiana Hospital on-site. Bus stops on SR 7 at AAA Blvd. and opposite at SR 7 at Royal Farms would allow J.P. Morgan employees to reach their office campus.

Route 20 – Schedule would be revised to better meet class start (9:30 AM) and end (12:00 PM) times for the Red Clay Adult Education Center (James H. Grove Adult High School) on Hillcrest Road in Wilmington. In addition, due to low ridership, service would be discontinued after 6 PM (the 6:30 PM and 8:00 PM weekday evening trips from Wilmington Transit Center, the 7:17 PM trip from Hockessin and the 8:20 PM trip from Greenville).

Routes 13 & 61 – Both routes would have schedule revisions based on customer feedback for service improvements. Select early morning trips would be discontinued on Route 61 due to low ridership. Two Route 61 trips, at 4:53 AM and 5:42 AM, from Brandywine Town Center to Claymont Transit Center would be discontinued; and one trip at 5:15 AM from Claymont Transit Center to Brandywine Town Center would be discontinued. Discontinued Route 61 trip resources would be used to improve later weekday night service after 8 PM. The Route 61 weekday service span would have two new trips at 8:30 PM and 9:35 PM from Claymont Transit Center to Brandywine Town Center to Brandywine Town Center to Brandywine Town Center; and the two new trips from 8:00 PM and 9:05 PM from Brandywine Town Center to Claymont Transit Center. On Route 13, two weekday trips would operate from the Wilmington Transit Center to Claymont Transit Center (departing at 5:15 AM and 12:30 PM), and one weekday trip would operate from Claymont Transit Center to Wilmington Transit Center (departing at 1:30 PM).

New Castle County Paratransit -

Paratransit trips in Delaware City, North Greenville and Centreville areas would change from an ADA trip to a Demand Response trip, resulting in a higher paratransit fare to become effective May 19, 2025.

Kent County

Route 108 – Schedule adjustments to improve on-time performance.

Sussex County

Schedule adjustments are proposed for all routes on all service days to improve on-time performance,

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connections, and schedule reliability. Please refer to the proposed schedule for specific trip time changes.

Route 204 – Span of service would change daily from 6 AM - 10 PM to 8 AM - 8 PM; service would operate hourly all day for both year-round and Beach Bus service schedules.

Route 206: The on-site bus stop at the Family Service Center on Bedford Street would be discontinued at the request of the property owner.

Route 215 – A new bus stop would be installed in Millsboro near the Post Office. For all trips heading toward the Rehoboth Park and Ride the bus would use Railroad Street to access the new bus stop.

Beach Bus Services (Implementation Monday, May 19, 2025 and ending Monday, September 1, 2025) Schedule adjustments are proposed for all routes on all service days to improve on-time performance, connections, and schedule reliability. Please refer to the proposed schedule for specific trip time changes.

Route 204 – The bus stop at Big Oaks Campground would be discontinued due to low ridership.

Route 305 –The last trip on Saturday would be modified to depart Wilmington at 3:00 PM instead of 5:15 PM and would depart Lewes Transit Center at 6:00 PM instead of 7:45 PM. On Sunday, service would be revised where the 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM departures would be combined into one trip departing at 9:00 AM. Sunday service would operate two roundtrips. The last trip on Sunday would be modified to depart Wilmington at 2:45 PM instead of 5:15 PM. Buses would depart Lewes Transit Center at 11:30 AM instead of 10:45 AM. The 7:45 PM trip would be discontinued. The Sunday 5:15 PM trip departure from Lewes Transit Center would not change.

Holiday Services

In New Castle County Sunday service would operate on 5/26 (Memorial Day), 7/4 (Independence Day), 9/1 (Labor Day) on Routes 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 13, 15, 33, 40, 64 and 305.

In Sussex County Weekend Resort service would operate on 5/26 (Memorial Day), 7/4 (Independence Day), 9/1 (Labor Day) on Routes 201, 204, 206, 208, and 215.

