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**MEDIA ALERT**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **RTA Service Enhancements to Begin in September**

**What:** RTA Riders will soon experience more frequent service in New Orleans East, Algiers, and have extra hours of operation on the Algiers Point - Canal Street Ferry, starting next month.

**When:** Sunday, September 1st

**Where:** See below for the enhanced route information

**Why:** New Orleans East and Algiers neighbors/leaders, as well as ferry supporters have been asking for more service to improve transportation to and from the City of New Orleans, and the RTA listened. Wednesday, August 21, the Authority held its final public hearing on implementing the service enhancements specified below. A majority of community members were supportive of the enhancements and wanted to see them move forward.

The new service enhancements will primarily be helping commuters who live in New Orleans East, Algiers, and those that ride the Canal Street Ferry. Many of them are late-night hospitality workers who have been asking for more frequent bus service and more hours on the ferry in order to get to and from work much easier. And, the RTA is happy to help them. They're the backbone of our community and they deserve frequent and reliable transportation. So, the RTA Board has dedicated the funding to implement these changes.

It's important to note, the public comment process for these service enhancements officially kicked off, during the RTA's May 28, 2019 board meeting. The first public engagement meeting was held June 5, 2019 at the Riders Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting. During the July 23<sup>rd</sup> RTA Board meeting, board commissioners approved the options presented below.

Community members have had the opportunity to provide comments during various public meetings, community outreach events, and through the RTA website. Ultimately, the four options below were advanced for implementation and will go into effect Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **New Orleans East Service Enhancements:**

- **63-New Orleans East Owl:**
  - This bus line will provide service every 30-minutes.
    - *Currently, service is provided every 60-minutes.*
  
- **64-Lake Forest Express & 65-Read-Crowder Express:**
  - Each bus line will provide service every 30-minutes M-F, all day long.
  - On weekdays, the two bus lines will also be broken into two separate lines and operate independently both inbound and outbound.
    - *Currently, service is provided every 30-minutes, during AM & PM Peak hours.*

### **Algiers Service Enhancements:**

- **114-General DeGaulle-Sullen & 115-General DeGaulle-Tullis** – Each bus line will provide service every 25-30 minutes, during the following peak times: 6 AM-10 AM & 3:20 PM -7:25 PM
  - *Currently, each bus line provides service every 45-minutes.*

### **Ferry Service Enhancement:**

- **Algiers Point - Canal Street Ferry** – Service will begin every morning at 6 AM, seven days a week.
  - *Currently, ferry service begins at 6am M-F.*

To learn more, visit [www.RTAforward.org](http://www.RTAforward.org) or call Rideline at 504-248-3900.