



Media Contact: Angele Young Boutte
504-215-0478 | ayoung@RTAforward.org

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 6, 2020

RTA Announces Mardi Gras Service Impacts

(New Orleans) – Today, the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (RTA) announced its service adjustments related to 2020 Mardi Gras activities. During all parades, the 5-Bywater and 55-Elysian Fields will not service stops beyond Elysian Fields and N. Peters due to the parades ending on Canal and Tchoupitoulas. All buses serving Duncan Plaza and Loyola and Perdido will be unaffected by parades on St. Charles Ave. Please note that Bus detours for the Krewe of Endymion parade, on Saturday, February 22, and the Mardi Gras Day parades, on Tuesday, February 25, have altered from previous years due to parade route changes.

Riders should plan extra time to reach destinations during parades. Even if a route is not directly impacted by a parade, due to increased traffic and pedestrian movements, there may still be delays. The RTA's planned detours begin 2 hours before parades start and remain in place until clean-up crews have cleared the parade routes.

Streetcar Service during Parades

- RTA streetcar lines will not service their full routes. Bus shuttles run will alongside the parade route during parades. After parades have passed and clean-up is complete regular service will resume.
- During Uptown parades, from **February 14 – 21**, the St. Charles Streetcar line will operate between S. Claiborne Avenue and Valence Street with shuttle bus service connecting from Valence Street to Duncan Plaza via Freret Street.
- Beginning the Wednesday before Mardi Gras (**Feb 19**) until the day after Mardi Gras (**Feb 26**), the St. Charles Streetcar line will only operate from S. Claiborne to Napoleon Avenue in order to maintain safe operations as crowds are gathering and setting up for parades.
- The Riverfront Streetcar will only service stops between the French Market and Harrah's Casino. There will be no service on Canal Street during the parades from Harrah's Casino to Carondelet Street.

Saturday, February 22, 2020 – Endymion Parade

- There will be no service to Duncan Plaza on Endymion parade day (**Feb 22**).
 - N.O. East and Gentilly buses will stop at Basin and Bienville.
 - Westbank routes will stop at Tulane and LaSalle.
- Service on Canal Street will stop at 2:00 pm and resume after the parade is over.

Tuesday, February 25, 2020 – Mardi Gras day

- On Mardi Gras Day all bus routes will follow their Saturday schedules, except the 106-Aurora, which will follow its weekday schedule.
- There will be no streetcar or shuttle bus service on the St. Charles Streetcar line Mardi Gras Day.
- There will be no service to Duncan Plaza due to Zulu, Elks, and Crescent City Truck parades on Mardi Gras Day.
 - N.O. East and Gentilly buses will stop at N. Rampart and Bienville.
 - Westbank buses will stop at Canal and LaSalle.
- There will be no service on the 91-Jackson/Esplanade route between Canal St. and Tchoupitoulas St. on Mardi Gras Day.
- There will be no service on the 15-Freret route on Mardi Gras Day.
- To view, Mardi Gras Day impacts, go to www.RTAforward.org/Mardi-Gras or pick up the Mardi Gras Guide.

Algiers Point-Canal Street Ferry operating hours will be enhanced starting Saturday, February 22 through Monday, February 24.

- Saturday, February 22
 - Last trip from West bank is 12:00am
 - Last trip from East bank is 12:15am
- Sunday, February 23
 - Last trip from West bank is 12:00am
 - Last trip from East bank is 12:15am
- Monday, February 24
 - Last trip from West bank is 12:00am
 - Last trip from East bank is 12:15am

Riders are encouraged to check parade detours ahead of time by visiting www.RTAforward.org/Mardi-Gras or by picking up an RTA Mardi Gras Guide. The RTA has planned for those unanticipated interruptions that may occur, riders can stay up to the minute on service disruptions by going to the RTA service Alerts page on the RTA website, or by following @NewOrleansRTA to get RTA service alerts via Twitter.

The RTA's Rideline team is available to assist riders via phone, (504) 248-3900 or e-mail, comments@RTAforward.org. Weekday hours are 5:00 am to midnight. The weekend hours are 5:00 am to 11:00 pm.

###