

BLUE X PRESS Press

*BlueXpress Press is the newsletter of the BlueXpress Transit Line,
Your commuter connection from Scott County to Downtown Minneapolis.*

A New Look in Downtown Minneapolis

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On December 14, 2009, the transit improvements on Marquette and 2nd avenues will be open to buses — dramatically enhancing express bus service. Customers will save several minutes per trip through downtown. Among the enhancements you'll see:

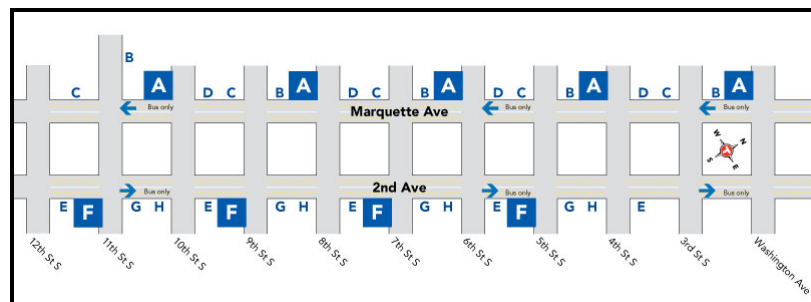


- New streets with side-by-side bus-only lanes
- Bus travel speeds through downtown doubled or even tripled
- NexTrip real-time departure signs & larger, more comfortable shelters
- Updated street design with improved lighting
- New, wider sidewalks and public art

New bus stop areas

Each express bus on Marquette and 2nd avenues will stop every other block—not every block like today. Bus stops will be organized by a letter system. Each route will serve the stops marked by a specific letter. Stop letters will appear on signs, in printed schedules and in shelters.

BlueXpress (Route 490) will serve all "F" stops on 2nd Avenue on its way into downtown and "A" stops on Marquette Avenue when leaving downtown (see map below).



Most blocks have two stops and each stop accommodates two buses. Arriving buses will pull into the first available space to board customers. Buses will not load customers in the passing lane.

The improvements mean there will be some changes to the time points for arrivals and departures. New schedules are being developed and will be available in mid-November, 2009.

For more information on the BlueXpress Bus service, visit www.blueexpressbus.com or call 952-496-8800 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Sign up to receive the "BlueXpress Press" E-newsletter at: www.blueexpressbus.com

Four Great Ways to Fight the Flu

The flu season has arrived in full force. According to the Minnesota Department of Health, both seasonal and H1N1 flu symptoms can include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. In some cases, symptoms of novel H1N1 can also include vomiting and diarrhea in addition to respiratory symptoms. To protect yourself and others, follow these four simple steps:



For more information about novel H1N1 flu, go to www.mdhflu.com.

Thanksgiving Service

There will be no BlueXpress service on Thanksgiving Day (November 26th) or on the following Friday (November 27th).



Rider Numbers

Our September numbers are in! The number of riders increased by 1% (10,917) from August to September. We are still down by 16% from September, 2008. In spite of the recent declines, BlueXpress is still doing well. Since July, 2007, we have provided more than 300,000 rides!

At a Glance

Public transportation users are more likely to meet recommended exercise goals. When Americans use public transportation, they walk more. Walking increases fitness levels, leading to healthier citizens and less strain on the health care system.

