

CALGARY TRANSIT INNER CITY BUS REVIEW

Calgary Transit is conducting a review of bus routes serving communities close to the downtown. It is proposing changing some routes and eliminating others, including the northern portion of Mount Pleasant's route 411. The rationale is that alternate service is provided by routes 2, 19, 119, and 404. The following link provides more information as well as maps of all proposed and existing bus routes: http://www.calgarytransit.com/html/inner_city.html.

The review mainly looks at routes that Calgary Transit considers to have low ridership and that provide duplication of service. Efforts were made to ensure connections were maintained to destinations such as shopping, downtown, hospitals, and LRT stations.

We encourage you to review these proposed changes and provide feedback to Calgary Transit. You can do this through the e-mail link on the above web page, by phone (403-262-1000), or by mail:

Calgary Transit, City of Calgary
Box 2100, Station M
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5

MPCA also would like to receive your comments on the proposed changes either by e-mail (membership@mpca.ca) or mail (602 22 Ave. NW, Calgary, AB, T2M 1N7). We will provide feedback from the community association based on the comments received from residents. Comments received to date are:

- Ridership on route 411 is low but the route may be important to those with reduced mobility living in our community. Community comments are required to support this position.
- Alternate routes to downtown are available but may entail longer walks to a bus stop and/or transfer to a second bus or C-Train.
- Route 404 doesn't travel as far north as route 411. Perhaps it should be extended north to cover more of the community if the 411 is eliminated.
- Route 411 no longer travels through Rosedale. Could ridership be increased by returning to the prior route?

Calgary Transit will display its proposals at two public open houses tentatively set for mid-February. The purpose of the open houses will be to gather comments and suggestions from the public as well as answer any questions you may have. Dates are expected to be set one or two weeks prior to the open houses. If you would like to attend, please look for information in the newspaper and on transit buses. On board notices will be handed out to customers on affected bus routes with a brief summary of the proposed changes.

Calgary Transit expects to have the majority of the comments back within a week of holding the open houses. At that point, it will compile the feedback and make the necessary changes to the routes. Transit intends to have these route changes implemented on Monday, June 28, 2010. Customers and Community Associations will be notified about the final changes through updates on our website and through a riders' guide that will be mailed to all households in the affected communities. Once any route changes are implemented, Calgary Transit will be conducting a review after 3 to 6 months to see the performance of the routes. Customers can expect onboard surveys regarding their experience on the route at that time. Also, customers can contact the Calgary Transit call centre at any point to voice their comments.