

UPCOMING CLOSURE DATES:

MAY 27TH

JUNE 19TH

RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM NEWSLETTER

QUARTER TWO

2024



NEW IN THIS ISSUE

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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We are on Facebook!

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RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM LENDING LIBRARY

In collaboration with the Rapid City Public Library, a new lending library has been opened at the Milo Barber Transportation Center Bus Depot downtown, located at 333 6th Street. The RTS Lending Library will be situated within the depot and accessible during regular lobby hours. Riders are welcome to read at the depot while waiting for the bus or grab a book to enjoy on the ride.

While the book collection will often cater to children and young adults, passengers of all ages can discover engaging reads here. Operating on the principle of "need a book, take a book - have a book, leave a book," this lending library is made possible through the support of the Public Library.

Kendra Magelky, the Operations Coordinator, expressed, "with the library's support, we have the ability to take this small step to give back to our community. As an avid reader myself, I am thrilled to encourage reading among our passengers, especially the little ones."

The RTS Lending Library is just one more way that the staff at the Rapid Transit System show their commitment to community and their dedication to their riders.

MEET THE STAFF: KENNY GIBEAU



Kenny Gibeau has recently advanced to the Route Supervisor role at the Rapid Transit System. With over six years of experience as an RTS driver, Kenny is well-equipped for the position. He has driven for both Rapid Ride and Dial-A-Ride services. Kenny initiated his training years ago, earning the Fill-in Supervisor title and completing a supervisory shadowing program. His extensive experience extends beyond RTS, as he has been actively engaged with three different unions for many years, showcasing his dedication to fostering a positive work environment. With over 15 years of driving experience in Colorado's mountains, Kenny's safety skills are commendable. Outside of work, Kenny is passionate about hot rods and is a proud father of three wonderful children.



DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

April marks National Distracted Driving Awareness Month. RTS takes great pride in prioritising safety on the road through training and policy enforcement to keep drivers focused. Let's all remember to drive safely and stay focused while behind the wheel.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Bussing Hours Mon. - Fri.
RapidRide: 6:20am-5:50pm
Dial-A-Ride: 6:10am-5:50pm

Bussing Hours Saturday
RapidRide: 9:50am-4:40pm
Dial-A-Ride: 8:30am-5:30pm

Office Hours Mon. - Fri.
7:00am-5:30pm

Lobby Hours Mon. - Fri.
7:30am-5:00pm

TRAVEL TRAINING

Free Travel Training is available to any individual, family, organization, or group who wishes to obtain more information regarding how to navigate the RapidRide and/or Dial-A-Ride service. To schedule a training session, contact Kendra Magelky.

NEWSLETTER ACCESS

If you or someone you know needs this newsletter in an alternate format or language, please contact Kendra Magelky, Operations Coordinator.

Requests to be added to the RTS Newsletter mailing list can be sent to: erin.kistler@rcgov.org.

DOWNTOWN RAPID CITY EVENTS



As we sense the approaching change in seasons, the anticipation of spring and summer is palpable in Rapid City. This means a plethora of events like parades, concerts, car shows, and more are on the horizon. These events may slightly affect both RapidRide and Dial-A-Ride services. RapidRide drivers are well versed in navigating road closures during these events and miss few, if any, stops. Dial-A-Ride often transports passengers to these downtown events and advises riders to double-check their drop-off points to ensure smooth access in case the bus is unable to get as close as usual due to potential blockages. As a reminder, Dial-A-Ride buses are required to abide by all traffic rules and safety is always the top priority.



NEW LOOK, SAME COMMUNICATION

The Rapid Transit System is now in its second year of issuing this external newsletter. The aim of the newsletter is to inform the community about RTS events and keep them informed. The new and enhanced format is introduced in the second quarter of 2024, but RTS is continuously seeking to enhance communication. Suggestions for newsletter topics, articles, or content are encouraged and can be forwarded to Kendra Magelky, Operations Coordinator, through phone, email, or postal mail. RTS expresses gratitude to the community for their ongoing support and feedback.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Route: Washington

General Location: St. Patrick St.

Number of stops: 4

Re-Open: TBD

Route: Coolidge

General Location: Silver St.

Number of stops: 5

Re-Open: November

Route: Washington, Lincoln, Coolidge & Roosevelt

General Location:

Cathedral Dr.

Number of stops: 4

Re-Open: May

For more information on deviations and closures contact the dispatch office directly at 605-394-6631 ext. 0.

DID YOU KNOW?

RapidRide provides free transportation to youth riders even when school is not in session. RTS does not require passes for students. However, high school-aged youth should be prepared with a school ID or other ID verifying age. Photocopies or pictures on phones are acceptable. 2024-2025 School IDs will continue to be accepted through the summer of 2024.

QUOTE OF THE QUARTER

"Dial-A-Ride drivers are very efficient, kind, and I love visiting with them. The dispatchers have so much patience. Dial-A-Ride is a very necessary part of my life. Thanks ever so much."
-Dial-A-Ride Rider

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Do you want to be a part of a team that provides a safe and economical alternative to help people get to where they need to go?

RTS is actively hiring:

- Benefited, full-time driver
- Saturday only driver
- Saturday only dispatch administrative staff

For more information or to apply, go to:
www.rcgov.org or call
605-394-6631.

ADOPT-A-STOP



Much like the Adopt-A-Highway Program, RTS's Adopt-A-Stop allows businesses, organizations, groups, or individuals to adopt a bus stop in the community. Adoption includes an agreement to keep an eye on the stop, report issues directly to RTS and work with staff to ensure the stop remains clean and accessible. As of March 2024, there are a total of 7 adopted stops. The goal is to have 20 stops adopted by the end of 2024. Can you help us meet that goal?

If you have questions or would like to adopt a bus stop, contact Erin Kistler at erin.kistler@rcgov.org.

RTS wants to shout out and thank all of our stop adopters: Monument Health- Behavioral Health Centre, Suzie Cappa, CSL Plasma, The Lash Box, The Club for Boys, and Happy Tails Haven Horse Rescue & Sanctuary. Your contributions to your community are recognized, valued, and appreciated.



RAPID RIDE RE-ROUTING

The team at the Rapid Transit System remains dedicated to the ongoing Rapid Ride re-routing project on the six existing fixed routes. This project aims to enhance the efficiency and accessibility of the current service for a broader community of riders. The project is still in the planning and evaluation stages. However, RTS will soon seek approval from the City Council to move forward with improvements. RTS is committed to maintaining transparent communication throughout the process.