

Community Member Speak About Evening Bus Service

The current operating hours closes doors of opportunity for better paying jobs for families of low and moderate incomes and we need to open those doors of opportunity by offering evening service.

Rev. Jackson of St. John's AME

What Can I Do To Help?

- ◆ Tell Springfield Mass Transit District you want evening bus service through the customer service form found at:

[http://www.smtd.org/
displayPage.asp?pid=15](http://www.smtd.org/displayPage.asp?pid=15)

- ◆ Share this brochure with your friends, family and co-workers and encourage them to contact Springfield Mass Transit District as well.
- ◆ Ride the bus in the evening when it becomes available.



Central Illinois
Organization Project

It's Time For Evening Bus Service

*There is Life After
Dark In Springfield*

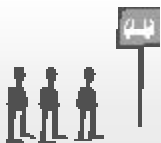


Bus Service In Springfield

- ◆ Springfield has not had permanent evening bus service since the 1950's.
- ◆ Springfield, the capital of the 5th largest state in the union and known throughout the world as the center of the Land of Lincoln, is the **only** large city in the state that does not have evening bus service.
- ◆ 9 out of 10 similar-sized capital cities already have evening bus service.
- ◆ In 2001, Americans used public transportation 9.5 billion times-the highest ridership level in 40 years.



It's Time for Evening Bus Service In Springfield!



4 Reasons for Evening Bus Service

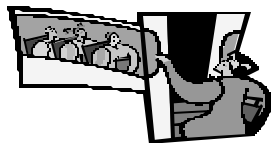
Universal Access

33% of the population of Springfield has some form of disability and **18%** of household in Springfield do not have a vehicle for transportation. In addition, an increasing number of senior citizen are using public transportation to remain independent. All citizens—**regardless of ability, age, or income level**—should enjoy all their city has to offer such as shopping, dining out, running errands, visiting friends and family, going to church, as well as getting to and from appointments and the hospitals.

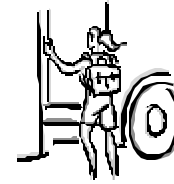


Economic Growth

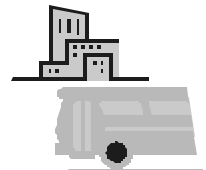
According to the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), every **\$1** dollar invested in public transportation generates **\$6** or more in economic returns, and **54%** of riders on public transportation use it to get to work. Better access to jobs 2nd and 3rd shift jobs will put more money into people's pockets who will then put it back into local businesses and the community.



Educational Opportunities
15% of riders use public transportation to attend an educational institution. There are over **50** degree programs in Springfield by more than **10** educational institutions offering night courses, which cannot be accessed without reliable transportation.



Environmental Factors
Evening bus service means less pollution in Springfield. Buses emit **80%** less carbon monoxide than a car & taking public transit instead of driving eliminates **3,300 pounds** of vehicle exhaust emissions and pollutants every year. Plus, Public transportation can significantly reduce dependency on foreign oil, reducing auto fuel consumption by **1.5 billion gallons** annually.



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