

July 9, 2010

**Media contact:** Susan M. Walsh, 941-861-5504; cell 941-650-4791; [swalsh@scgov.net](mailto:swalsh@scgov.net)

**Project contacts:** Sarah Blanchard, cell 941-650-2284; [sblancha@scgov.net](mailto:sblancha@scgov.net)

Phil Lieberman, 941-861-1012; [plieberman@scgov.net](mailto:plieberman@scgov.net)

## SCAT route and schedule changes to take effect July 17

Sarasota County Area Transit (SCAT) will implement significant changes to its routes and schedules beginning Saturday, July 17. The changes will particularly improve frequency and connection options in the south county communities of Venice, Englewood and North Port.

The south county planned route redesigns Monday-Saturday are:

- **Route 26 (Venice Connector):** SCAT will merge most of the service area from Route 26 into the Route 13 (Venice Island). The portion of Route 26 operating on the U.S. 41 By-Pass will be served by a redesigned Route 16 (Englewood).
- **Route 16 (Englewood):** Route 16 will be redesigned to be more direct between Venice and Englewood. In Venice, the route will operate via U.S. 41 By-Pass, not Venice Island.
- **Route 13 (Venice Island):** Route 13 will be extended to the Venice Walmart on Jacaranda Boulevard via Center Road, Shamrock Boulevard, Alligator Drive and U.S. 41. To make this change, SCAT will remove service from U.S. 41 Business Monday-Saturday between Venice Avenue and Avenida Del Circo. North of the Venice Publix Shopping Plaza, passengers can access Route 13 one block west of U.S. 41 Business on Nokomis Avenue between Venice Avenue and Palermo Place.

Planned service changes Monday-Saturday include:

- **Route 2 (Cocoanut Avenue):** Service will end at 10 p.m.

- **Route 3 (Pinecraft):** The 6:08 p.m. trip inbound from Webber Street will be eliminated.
- **Route 5 (Osprey-Swift):** The Route 5 trip outbound at 7 p.m. will end at Proctor Road. There will be a full trip at 6 p.m.
- **Route 9 (North Port via Jacaranda Boulevard):** Route 9, which travels between North Port and the Venice Train Depot SCAT Transfer Station, requires minor schedule changes that will improve connections. SCAT will continue to operate the route every 60 minutes.
- **Route 12 (North Lockwood):** The last full inbound trip will depart University Parkway at 10:15 p.m. The last outbound trip will depart Lemon Avenue at 10:45 p.m. A partial inbound trip to 17th Street will depart University Parkway at 11 p.m.
- **Route 14 (Bee Ridge):** The 10:40 p.m. outbound trip will shift to 10:20 p.m. and will connect from Route 17 northbound, arriving at 10:18 p.m. The last trip currently at 11:38 p.m. outbound to Cattlemen Road will shift to 11:13 p.m.
- **Route 17 (Trail):** The Route 17 outbound trip at 7:15 p.m. will be extended to Venice

Monday-Saturday. Late-night schedules will be compressed. The last full inbound trip from Venice will arrive at Lemon Avenue at 10:30 p.m. The 11:30 p.m. outbound trip from Lemon Avenue to Westfield Southgate Mall will shift to 11:05 p.m.

- **Route 99 (Palmetto Connector):** Route 99's first trip at 6:25 a.m. from the airport will be eliminated, but passengers can ride Manatee County Area Transit (MCAT) Route 99 at 6:35 a.m.

Service changes on Sunday will include:

- **Route 8517 (Tallevast-SMH):** SCAT will eliminate Route 8517 on Sunday. The route will be replaced with two separate routes: Route 7 (Newtown-NE) and Route 8 (Newtown- U.S. 301). Routes 7 and 8 will operate every two hours Sunday on their regular routes. Both routes will end at the SCAT Downtown Sarasota Transfer Station and will not continue to Sarasota

Memorial Hospital. Riders can transfer to Route 1713 to travel south of Lemon Avenue.

- **Route 6 (Beneva):** The last outbound trip will depart Lemon Avenue at 9:30 p.m.
- **Route 12 (North Lockwood):** The last outbound trip will depart Lemon Avenue at 10 p.m. A partial inbound trip to 17th Street will depart University Parkway at 10:18 p.m.
- **Route 14 (Bee Ridge):** The last trip currently at 11:38 p.m. outbound to Cattlemen Road will shift to 11:13 p.m. (same as weekday).
- **Route 1713 (Trail):** No service after 10:15 p.m., except a partial trip at 11:05 p.m. from Lemon Avenue to Westfield Southgate Mall.
- **Route 215:** The 11:30 p.m. trip will be eliminated.

SCAT operates up to 44 fixed-route buses on 24 routes Monday-Saturday, with more limited service on Sunday.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000. A complete set of new route maps and schedules will be available at <http://www.scgov.net/SCAT/> on July 17.

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