

news release

Chicago Transit Authority

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For Immediate Release

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CTA to Provide Extra Service to Upcoming Events; Notifies Customers of Construction Work

Work on Illinois Medical District Blue Line station will impact Damen Avenue entrance

The Chicago Transit Authority will provide extra bus service for customers attending upcoming events at the United Center.

The CTA also announced that construction work as part of the Illinois Medical District (IMD) Blue Line station project will require a temporary closure of the Damen Avenue entrance to the station. The station will remain open and accessible via entrances off of Ogden and Paulina avenues.

United Center Events

The CTA will operate the #19 United Center Express for customers attending the upcoming events at the United Center:

- Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. Chicago Bulls vs. Toronto Raptors
- Thursday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. Chicago Bulls vs. Boston Celtics
- Saturday, Feb. 18 at 6 p.m. Chicago Blackhawks vs. Edmonton Oilers
- Thursday, Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. Chicago Blackhawks vs. Arizona Coyotes
- Friday, Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. Chicago Bulls vs. Phoenix Suns
- Saturday, Feb. 25 at 7:30 p.m. Charlie Wilson
- Sunday, Feb. 26 at 6:30 p.m. Chicago Blackhawks vs. St. Louis Blues
- Tuesday, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. Chicago Bulls vs. Denver Nuggets

Bus Service:

- #19 United Center Express buses will leave from Michigan and Randolph beginning approximately 1.5 hours before the start of each event.
- After each event, #19 buses will operate for approximately one hour and await customers on the north side of the United Center eastbound on Madison near Gate 3.

Rail Service:

- CTA's Ashland/Lake station, served by the Green and Pink lines, is located a few blocks northeast of the United Center. Customers exiting at the station can transfer to #9 Ashland buses or simply walk a few blocks to the stadium.
- Customers taking the Blue Line can get to the United Center by exiting at the Illinois Medical District station and walking a few blocks north to the United Center.

Illinois Medical District (IMD) station entrance closure – beginning February 6

The Damen Avenue entrance to the Illinois Medical District (IMD) Blue Line station will be temporarily closed beginning at 9 a.m. Monday, February 6 until mid-May. The three-month closure is necessary for construction work that is part of a modernization project announced in August 2016. Crews at the station will be making improvements to the stationhouse exterior and interior as well as upgrades to the concourse.

The station will remain open throughout the entire construction project. During impacts, customers can access the station via the main entrance on Ogden Avenue or the additional auxiliary entrance on Paulina Avenue, which is now an ADA accessible entry.

Customers accessing the station from the #50 Damen route can transfer to the #7 Harrison (weekdays) or #126 Jackson (weekends and weekdays late evening) as an alternative that serves the accessible Paulina entrance.

The project will require additional entrance closures to the station in the future in order to complete the necessary work, of which CTA will notify customers.

The IMD Renovation Project is making improvements to all three entrances of the IMD station, including the complete reconstruction of the main stationhouse on Ogden Avenue to make it accessible to customers with disabilities with the addition of an elevator. For more information on the project visit: <u>http://www.transitchicago.com/imd/</u>.

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