

ISSUE

100

April
2020

DTA
Dakota Transit
Association

Transit Tidbits



this issue

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DTA Fall Conference and Bus Rodeo

Date:
September 11th
thru the 15th

City:
Watertown, SD

Hotel:
Ramkota Hotel and
Watertown Event
Center

Phone Number:
605-886-8011

People's Transit: PT Passport

Gayle Kludt, Executive Director
People's Transit - Huron, SD

In the spring of 2018, People's Transit (PT) was looking to find a way to increase ridership during the summer months. After learning of other transits in the State of South Dakota who had already implemented summer ride passes for youth, PT came up with the PT Passport. It was decided to offer the PT Passport for a one-time fee of \$60 for the months of June, July and August with unlimited transportation.

The Huron Public School system agreed to allow PT to send flyers home with all elementary students and also include that flyer in emails to Middle School and High School students. With Huron's diverse population we had the flyer translated into Karen and Spanish.

The initial response to the PT Passport met our expectations. The first summer the City of Huron purchased 30 PT Passports to use with their Summer Camp program. Additionally, there were 25 PT Passports purchased individually.

See PASSPORT, page 2

Passport

Continued from Page 1

With any new program we learned of changes we would need to make for the following year. Parents would schedule rides then not cancel them if there were changes in plans. Our drivers would still go to pick up the child utilizing our time and resources but finding no rider. We had to add a “no show” fee for rides that were not cancelled. At the request of customers, we expanded our PT Passport to include the three mile radius around the City of Huron for \$100.

The Nordby Center for Recreation has committed to purchasing 35 PT Passports for their summer camp program. With the addition of the City of Huron and single purchases we anticipate our PT Passport program growing to over 100 sold!!! (Disclaimer: COVID-19 may impact this)

Tentative DTA Fall Conference Agenda

Jacque Senger, DTA Executive Director

The TENTATIVE DTA Fall Conference Agenda is now on the DTA Website. You will find the Agenda under Training and Events. We will be having a Board Meeting the first part of May. At that meeting we will assess the COVID-19 status and act appropriately. As the Board comes to any decisions, we will keep the general membership fully informed.



**Happy Easter to Each and Everyone
of You and Your Families**

Williston Updates

John McMahon, Owner

Airport Express - Williston, ND

As Williston buckles down against the COVID-19 virus the hospitality and the transportation industry have taken a huge loss in clients, while the governor has decided against a lockdown of residents, the idea has its merits.

We all should avoid all unnecessary travel, wear a mask and maintain 6ft distance, not only for our safety but for that of our passengers. Passenger safety and comfort can't be emphasized enough.

In order to keep passengers safe, we wipe down the shuttle between transportation runs and the size of the bus allows for social distancing.

While the industry is in slowdown, this is a good opportunity for deep cleaning and making necessary repairs to our vehicles and update driving skills for drivers.

For those who may suffer financial loss due to the virus, you can apply for financial assistance at <https://covid19relief.sba.gov/#/>

Stay safe out there and remember the 5 keys to driving

A - Aim High in steering
Look 15 to 30 seconds ahead

G - Get the big picture
Watch for hazards and pedestrians

K - Keep your eyes moving
Don't focus on one spot, scan your mirrors

L - Leave yourself an out
Use space cushion driving techniques to reduce chance of an accident

M - Make sure they see you
Make eye contact, use your horn, headlights, turn signals, 4 way flashers

Training Update - Linda Freeman, PASS Coordinator

Phone: 701-848-6480 E-mail: lindaafreeman1@gmail.com

As you are all aware, we have had to postpone both the **Spearfish** and **Valley City** classes because of the Coronavirus. We will be rescheduling these classes when we are able. As of now, the other classes are still on our schedule.

Pierre

Tuesday, June 23, 2020-Thursday, June 25, 2020

Full PASS, PASS Recertification being offered June 23-24

Defensive Driving will be offered on the 25th if needed

Trainers will be Adam Sharkey and Andy Sharp. Hotel information will be on the DTA web site and in the tidbits at a later date

Dickinson

Thursday, July 23-Saturday, July 25, 2020

Full PASS, PASS Recertification, Defensive Driving, and Maltreatment Awareness being offered.

PASS—July 23 & 24 from 9 am to 5:00 pm

PASS Recertification—July 24 from 9 am to 5:00 pm

Maltreatment Awareness—July 25 from 8am to 11am.

Defensive Driving—July 25 from 11 am to 3pm

Hotel Information: Comfort Inn of Bismarck – 493 Elk Drive. Phone-701-264-7300. You will need to call to make your reservation under the Dakota Transit Association Block to get state rates. Block is set up for nights of July 22, 23 & 24th. Deadline for motel reservation is July 10th.

Aberdeen

Monday, December 28-Tuesday, December 29, 2020

Full PASS and PASS Recertification offered

PASS—December 28 & 29 from 9am to 5pm

PASS Recertification—December 29 from 9am to 5pm

Hotel information and class location to be determined at a later date.

Other Proposed Classes that have not been scheduled for certain yet:

Brookings Late July—PASS & PASS Recertification

Bismarck Early October—All 3 classes

Other classes besides those scheduled and proposed can be arranged by contacting Linda by phone or e-mail.

Keep safe and kudos to you for providing your services during this hard time!

*Thought for the
Month of April...*

*I think that when the dust settles,
we will realize how little we need,
how very much we actually have,
and the true value of human connection.*



Jacque Senger
DTA Executive Director

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Please share your Transit Tidbit with your staff and any interested person(s).

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Directors, please check with your bookkeepers as well as the rest of your staff  to assure they have the correct DTA mailing address.

Thanks to all!

- Jacque

www.dakotatransit.org