



**Regional  
Transportation  
Authority**

## **For immediate release**

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### **RTA ENCOURAGES USE OF TRIP PLANNER AS SERVICE CUTS, FARE HIKES START THIS WEEKEND** *Online Tool Ready Now to Help Riders Affected November 4*

Chicago – As transit riders confront service cuts and fare hikes on November 4, the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) is encouraging use of its online trip planning tool. The RTA’s Trip Planner is available online at [www.rtachicago.com](http://www.rtachicago.com) and on web-enabled PDAs or cell phones at [www.RTAMobile.com](http://www.RTAMobile.com).

All of the service cuts for the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) and Pace that go into effect November 4 have already been programmed into the Trip Planner. Riders can use the tool now to plan their trip for when after the cuts take place.

“With all of the regrettable changes affecting transit service and fares, we wanted to give riders the most current information to be better prepared come November 4th,” commented Phil Shayne, RTA’s Director of Regional Services.

Since it went online seven years ago, the Trip Planner has proven to be popular among riders with over 35 million itineraries planned to date.

The RTA continues to work with the Governor and the General Assembly to approve a long-term, comprehensive solution to the funding crisis. The RTA and its Service Boards are required by law to balance their budgets. But due to serious funding shortfalls, service cuts, fare increases and layoffs must occur with the CTA and Pace implementing the first phase of a budget balancing plan on November 4. For further information on the changes, visit [www.rtachicago.com](http://www.rtachicago.com), [www.transitchicago.com](http://www.transitchicago.com) or [www.pacebus.com](http://www.pacebus.com).

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*About the RTA: The RTA provides financial oversight, funding and regional planning for the three public transit operations in Northeastern Illinois: The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) bus and train, Metra commuter rail and Pace suburban bus and paratransit. For more information, visit [www.rtachicago.com](http://www.rtachicago.com) and [www.MovingBeyondCongestion.org](http://www.MovingBeyondCongestion.org).*