

1. What is happening at the BTC?

- a. Starting May 3, the DDA, in partnership with TheRide and the City of Ann Arbor, is starting a construction project on 4th Ave to improve the pedestrian and transit amenities on 4th Ave between William and Liberty Streets. Due to the significant construction that will occur, 4th Ave will be completely closed. Therefore, TheRide must move all buses that arrive and depart from the Blake Transit Center and 4th Ave. The Blake Transit Center will be closed to the public starting May 3. While this is a DDA-led initiative, TheRide has been involved in the design and planning process.

2. Where are buses being moved to?

- a. TheRide plans to move all bus stand locations from 4th Ave and the BTC to 5th Ave and Washington St. A boarding location map is available at [TheRide.org/BTC](https://www.theride.org/BTC). Please note this is subject to change.

3. What about a waiting area for passengers?

- a. At this time, we do not have space available for an indoor waiting area for passengers. However, some shelters and benches will be available for passengers along 5th and Washington.

4. How can customers purchase passes or tokens?

- a. TheRide continues to explore possible options to offer sales of passes and tokens near 5th Ave and Washington St. We will continue to update our riders as information becomes available. In addition, if able, we encourage riders to use EZFare to purchase passes on their phones. Single-ride and day passes are available for purchase on the bus with cash up to a \$10 bill. Otherwise, tokens and passes may be purchased at the Ypsilanti Transit Center and our main office at 2700 S. Industrial Highway. The Bank of Ann Arbor remains a designated seller of some of our passes, as well.

5. When is this temporary change starting?

- a. The temporary closure and moving of boarding locations will begin May 3, 2026, which is also the start of our annual Spring service updates.

6. How long will it last?

- a. Like all construction, the end date is not definite as many factors weigh into how quickly work can be done (such as weather, unanticipated complications, etc.). The current construction schedule lasts through November 2026, but delays through January 2027 are possible.
- b. Please note: Due to a housing development at the former YMCA lot behind the Blake Transit Center, not all bus stands will be restored after 4th Ave construction finishes. Some displacement of buses will occur for the duration of the housing construction. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time.

7. Why is this happening and what will be the benefit?

- a. The closure is due to the full road closure on 4th Ave between William and Liberty Streets to construct better pedestrian and transit-focused amenities, including better lighting, wider sidewalks, and roadway markings for transit. New shelters and enhanced boarding areas will also be installed.

8. Will service be the same on all routes?

- a. Most routes will simply have a different boarding and de-boarding location in downtown Ann Arbor at 5th & Washington, rather than the Blake Transit Center. Trip times for some routes will be adjusted to accommodate the different operating environment at 5th & Washington, but frequencies will remain the same. Due to routing and other upcoming road closures around downtown Ann Arbor, Route 29 will be temporarily suspended. Route 26 will operate at 30-minute frequencies between 6:15 AM – 6:45 PM on weekdays and 7:15 AM – 6:45 PM on Saturdays instead. As part of our Spring service updates, some standard route modifications will be announced. Stay up to date at TheRide.org for those details.

9. How can I learn more about this?

- a. TheRide has a dedicated webpage: TheRide.org/BTC that will track the temporary change and provide updates. In addition, you can find information on the 4th Ave project at: <https://www.a2dda.org/people-friendly-streets/projects/fourth-avenue/>
- b. You can call 734-996-0400 to speak to one of TheRide's Information Specialists.

10. Will the D2A2 and Michigan Flyer buses be moving?

- a. Yes, due to the housing development that will be built behind the Blake Transit Center, the D2A2 and Michigan Flyer buses will be moving. We encourage you to visit their websites to stay up to date, and we will share information as it becomes available.