



CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT

Winter 2024 Edition

# OUTBOUND

Community Newsletter

## 2024 Big Things In Store

Exciting times lie ahead for CAT in 2024! As we embark on this new year, we're thrilled to announce several major initiatives aimed at enhancing transit services across Chatham County. From the launch of our Zero Fare Student Pilot Program to the expansion of microtransit zones, we're committed to providing convenient, accessible, and sustainable transportation options for our community. Additionally, we recently celebrated the graduation of our largest class of operators, welcoming 22 new transit professionals to the CAT team. With their expertise and dedication, we're poised to deliver exceptional service and foster positive transit experiences for all passengers. Stay tuned for more updates and developments as we continue our mission to connect people, jobs, and opportunities in Chatham County!



## March Service Changes: CAT Expands Routes and Prepares for Microtransit Zones

In an effort to better serve the Chatham County community, Chatham Area Transit (CAT) is rolling out several service changes in March.

**Port Wentworth Expansion:** CAT is extending its service to Port Wentworth with the introduction of **New Route 5**, which now covers Bay Street, Hwy. 21, and Port Wentworth. The service will run hourly Monday-Saturday from 5:30am to 9:30pm, and every 2 hours on Sunday from 9am to 4pm. Additionally, **Route 3B** is extended to Groves High School.

**Simplified Sunday Service:** On Sundays, **Route 3** and **Route 3B** will combine into a single route. Outbound will follow **Route 3B** alignment between ITC and Augusta & Priscilla D. Thomas and the **Route 3** alignment from Priscilla D. Thomas to Benton & Highlands. The Inbound service will follow **Route 3** alignment from Benton & Highlands to Augusta & Priscilla D. Thomas and the **Route 3B** alignment from Priscilla D. Thomas to ITC. This change will allow for consistent 2-hour service on Augusta Road and to the Highlands on Sundays.

**East Savannah Microtransit Zone:** CAT introduces a third bus on **Route 7F** from Monday to Saturday to meet the requirements of a new city contract.

**Route 4 Modifications:** **Route 4** is undergoing changes to address driver-related concerns and prepare for a future change to **Route 31**. The inbound pattern for **Route 4** has shifted to travel along Sallie Mood Drive, with new northbound stops along the route. There's also an additional morning inbound trip on weekdays, extending the service hours to 7 a.m. - 7:55 p.m. on weekdays. **All Route 4** trips now include stops at Montgomery Landings and Lamar & Dixon, with no more short turns at Savannah Summit.

These adjustments aim to enhance the overall transit experience and set the stage for the upcoming West Chatham and West Savannah Microtransit Zones.

# CAT prepares for the start of the Zero Fare Student Pilot Program



CAT is excited to report a promising start to the Student Zero Fare Pilot Program! With over 200 students already enrolled, the initiative is off to a fantastic beginning. Designed to eliminate transportation barriers and promote public transit awareness among students, the program has garnered significant interest and participation from across Chatham County. Through this initiative, students can access CAT fixed route and paratransit buses at no cost, fostering lifelong ridership habits and encouraging community connectivity. As enrollment continues to grow, we look forward to providing even more students with convenient and accessible transportation options. Stay tuned for further updates on the progress and impact of the Student Zero Fare Pilot Program!

## How to Register:

K-12 students can use either the CAT Bus Pass or their valid in-date school issued ID. We do recommend that that K-12 Students utilize the CAT Bus Pass and to download or print their pass, after signing up via the CAT website at [www.catchacat.org/studentfare](http://www.catchacat.org/studentfare). For Zero Fare entry, college and university students can use their valid in-date school issued ID.

We're excited about the positive impact this program will have on your commuting experience. Please download the CATTracker App to plan your route and to track the CAT Bus. We also recommend parents to location features on their student's phones.

For questions or more information, reach out to CAT. We're committed to a seamless and free transit experience for Chatham County students.



Scan for more information and to sign up for the CAT Student Zero Fare Program

## US Secretary of Transportation visits Savannah and CAT

Chatham Area Transit (CAT) had the distinct honor of hosting a truly distinguished guest recently – US Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg. This exciting event brought together CAT's dynamic team, community leaders, and Local ATU 1324 leadership for an engaging roundtable discussion, propelling the future of transportation in Chatham County into the spotlight.

**Collaboration in Action:** The discussion was a testament to the power of collaboration. Our team at CAT, together with Secretary Buttigieg, delved deep into the opportunities and challenges of modernizing transportation in our community. The insights and ideas shared were nothing short of inspiring, and we left the table with a renewed sense of purpose. Secretary Buttigieg's visit reaffirmed our commitment to innovation and sustainability in transit. We're dedicated to working together, with our partners and the community, to create a transportation system that's not only efficient but also environmentally responsible.

**Stay Tuned for More:** This is just the beginning! CAT is committed to keeping you in the loop as we continue to work on exciting and innovative transit solutions for Chatham County. Let's ride toward a better future, hand in hand!



# CAT in the Community



**CATConnects Ribbon Cutting**



**Workforce Development Visit**



**Customer Service Training**

**Christmas Lunch**



**MLK Day Parade**

## CAT Community Calendar

**Board Committee Meeting Location:**  
In Person 900 E. Gwinnett Street

**Public Meeting Location:**  
Zoom Video: <https://bit.ly/2EsR4kH>

**Board Meeting Location:**  
CAT Central, 900 East Gwinnett Street

**Virtual Meeting Location:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85839896020>

Catch all of CAT's videos

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Month	Board Governance Committee Meeting 1pm, 2:30pm and 4pm	Regular Board Meeting 11am
Feb	13th	20th
Mar	12th	19th
Apr	16th	23rd

February  
Black History Month  
14th - Valentine's Day  
19th - President's Day

March  
10th - First Day of Ramadan  
17th - St. Patrick's Day  
31st - Easter Sunday

April  
16th - Emancipation Day

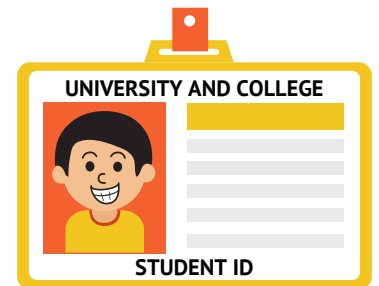
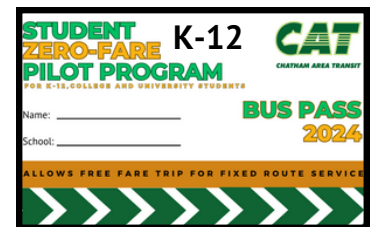
# STUDENT ZERO-FARE PILOT PROGRAM

# 2024

FOR K-12, COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Chatham Area Transit has implementing a Zero Fare Pilot Program for all students in Chatham County.

- K-12 Students can download or print their pass, after signing up via the CAT website at [www.catchacat.org/studentfare](http://www.catchacat.org/studentfare)
- For Zero Fare entry K-12 students can use either the CAT Bus Pass (see right) or their valid in-date school issued ID if applicable
- For Zero Fare entry College and University Students can use their valid in-date school issued Student ID (see below right)
- For both fixed route and paratransit services (paratransit riders do not need to sign up for the CAT Bus Pass)



## If You...

## “See Something, Say Something”

LET’S WORK TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE.

Please alert your operator, CAT uniformed security personnel or law enforcement in the case of dangerous or suspicious activity.

Contact: [Safety@catchacat.org](mailto:Safety@catchacat.org) or call (912) 629-3955

