

DAY OF FREE TRANSIT!

CTA ANNOUNCES DAY OF FREE TRANSIT TRAVEL ANYWHERE DECEMBER 15 5AM to 7PM RIDERS DON'T PAY, WORKERS DON'T COLLECT!

Dear CTA passengers,

We at CTA management are faced with making tough decisions lately. These decisions may have adversely affected your ability to use public transportation in Chicagoland. We are still trying to negotiate with the state of Illinois for sufficient funding, however, we must also make immediate budget cuts to help tide us over until negotiations produce reasonable results. **We regret eliminating one thousand CTA employees and moving forward with our alternative budget service cuts** slated for January second, 2005.

We apologize for all upcoming compromises to CTA workers and riders in winter-time. I personally apologize to our lower income, disabled, elderly and southside riders. You are valued riders and Chicago citizens, yet you do not know the immense pressures we are under trying to accommodate are corporate and political supporters. After all, we at the CTA must prioritize according to profitability and efficiency like any other business. The current Circle Line Plan we are working on is a perfect business example. We project the city will gain several millions in revenue as the result of more efficient downtown and airport connections.

Still we know the current economy could be vastly improved. In the spirit of the holidays **we will be offering One Day of Free Travel starting December 15th, starting at 5 AM to 7 PM.** I also want to improve the dialogue between riders and the CTA by opening my phone up to you input on solutions and opinions on the current funding crisis. I apologize for not communicating more at our previous CTA public hearings. I hope this gesture will rectify any misunderstandings, improve services and generate alternative solutions we at the CTA can use to end further financial hardships.

I am deeply grateful for all you give our great city.

**LAYOFFS AND FIRINGS? SERVICE CUTS? FARE HIKES?
LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK!**

The logo for the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), featuring the lowercase letters "cta" in a bold, white, sans-serif font on a black background. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located to the right of the text.

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