



To: Urbana City Council
From: Bryan D. Smith, Chief Operating Officer
Date: June 13, 2016
Subject: Designated Stops Pilot Program

MTD is embarking on a pilot project to examine the effect of making all of the stops along the 5/50 Green route designated stops starting in fall 2016. A designated stop is one with a standard MTD bus stop sign which indicates the routes that service that stop. This would eliminate the flag stops for the Green route. A flag stop refers to the bus stopping wherever a passenger “flags” the bus down with a wave of their hand, usually at any street corner.

Currently, at a flag stop, the operator and passenger have to agree on a safe location to stop. An intersection may be safe to stop at during non-peak traffic, but is unsafe during rush hour. This leads to confusion for the passenger, as they wouldn’t necessarily know of that changing situation. An operator may determine a stop is unsafe for other temporary situations, such as construction or a traffic stop by a police officer. Passengers may not always signal that they want a bus, or an operator may mistake a person standing at a street corner as a passenger when they are not.

Designated stops eliminate that confusion. Stops will be placed where it is safe to stop. While temporary situations may arise, Operations staff will be able to more quickly adjust to them and provide notice to operators and the public for a limited number of known stops instead of an entire stretch of road. Buses will also stop less frequently, increasing the efficiency of picking up several passengers at one place instead on one passenger at multiple places.

Designated stops would provide a safer service that is more efficient with increased reliability and schedule adherence. If the pilot project is successful, designated stops will be established for all routes beginning in fall 2017.

Maps of the proposed stop locations on the 5/50 Green route can be found at <http://www.cumtd.com/about-us/documents> under the Projects tab.

**CHAMPAIGN-URBANA
MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT**

**DESIGNATED STOPS on the
5/50 GREEN ROUTE**

*Bryan D. Smith
Chief Operating Officer*



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DESIGNATED STOPS OVERVIEW

BENEFITS OF DESIGNATED STOPS

- Improved Safety
- Uncertainty Eliminated
- Reduced Conflict
- Improved Reliability/Schedule Adherence
- Improved Efficiency



DESIGNATED STOPS OVERVIEW

EXISTING DESIGNATED STOP “ZONES”

- University of Illinois Campus
- Downtown Champaign
- Country Fair Area
- Market Place Area
- Portion of 6 Orange Route



DESIGNATED STOPS OVERVIEW

MTD STOP PLACEMENT GUIDELINES

- Used by MTD staff, city planners, traffic engineers, developers, and others;
- Not intended to be rigid



DESIGNATED STOPS OVERVIEW

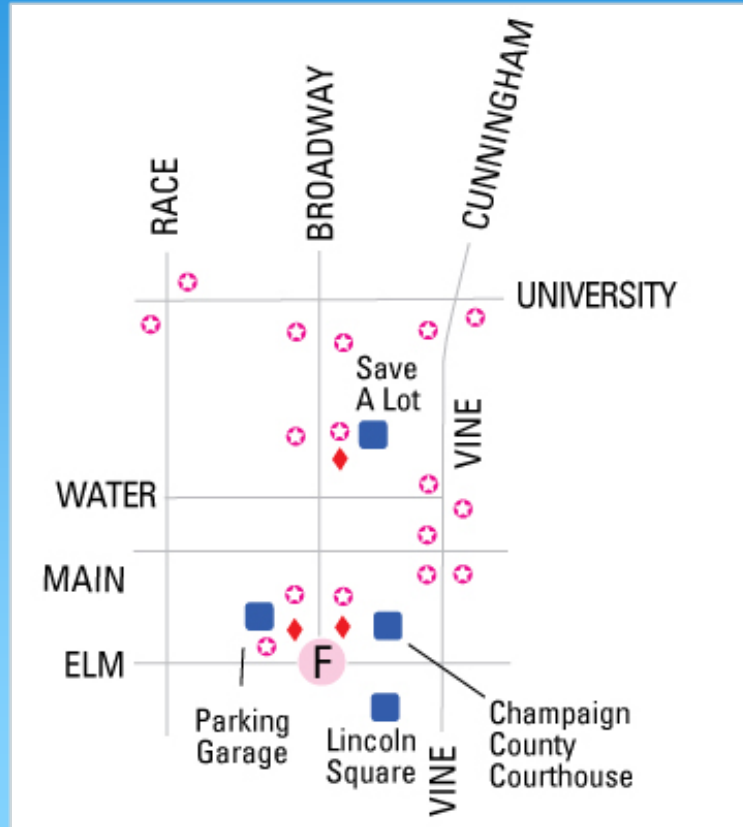
MTD STOP PLACEMENT GUIDELINES

- Safety, customer service, operational requirements, and cost effectiveness
- Adjusted for site specific constraints
- Extenuating circumstances may justify deviation



DESIGNATED STOPS DOWNTOWN

DOWNTOWN
URBANA



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DESIGNATED STOPS OVERVIEW

MTD STOP PLACEMENT GUIDELINES ONGOING EVALUATION

MTD monitors route performance as the community evolves.



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DESIGNATED STOPS FUTURE

BEGINNING IN FALL 2017

- MTD tentatively plans system-wide designated stops in Fall 2017.
- Performance of the Green route pilot will be carefully monitored and evaluated
- Lessons learned will be applied to the system-wide implementation



THANK YOU!

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