

SPORTRAN TO MAKE CHANGES TO NIGHT SERVICE ROUTES

SporTran will make adjustments to its Night Service routes, effective on Monday, November 12.

According to SporTran Manager Gene Eddy, the changes will improve the routes without increasing costs and will make service more efficient. Billed as a 15 month trial program, Night Service began in October 2006. The City has recently declared the program to be a success and committed to continue the service in 2008

The changes include:

Route N-101 - Provide night service to the new Wal-Mart on Shreveport- Barksdale Highway. Reduce night service trips into the Veterans Administration Hospital and into LSUS campuses to just one per night, on the first trip. Night routes will still run within walking distance of the VA and LSUS on remaining night trips.

Route N-201 – No changes on this loop route until returning via Line Avenue to downtown. Continuing north on Line, the bus will head east on Crockett to the Terminal. This eliminates the Louisiana to Marshall segment. With Doctors Hospital closing, passenger rides have dropped on the Louisiana to Marshall segment.

Route N-301 – No changes on this loop route until returning to downtown via north on Linwood.

Service on Pierre, Garden, Holzman and Ford Streets. Will be replaced by operating Linwood, to Murphy, then Texas Street to the Terminal (the same as the outbound service). Changes to Route N-401 (extending service on Ford from Hearne to Caddo to North Market will substitute for the deleted service on Ford Street – see Route N-401 below). The change benefits Allendale residents by making Night Service two-way, in and out from downtown, not one way only on an outbound trip from downtown, as is now the case.

Route N-401 – Starting from downtown, the route segment from Spring Street to North Market out to Jack Wells Blvd will be deleted. Surveys showed few riders along this segment. Instead, service will be run from Ford to North Hearne to North Market, both inbound and outbound. This will have the effect of providing two-way service to much of the Allendale neighborhood. It will also provide new Night Service to 300+ housing units on North Hearne.

Routes N-501 and N-601 –Neither route in Bossier City will change.

According to Eddy, the changes will make the service more productive, cause little or no disruption to current riders, and should attract more potential riders. Approximately 700 riders per day use the evening bus service.