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## Public-private partnership provides major improvements to popular bus stop

DART, City of Windsor Heights, Walmart and Colby Interests work together to serve riders

Major improvements are now visible at one of DART's busiest bus stops at Walmart in Windsor Heights. Riders and shoppers will benefit from dedicated bus lanes, more comfortable waiting areas with new shelters and bus-level boarding platforms.

"Hundreds of people get on and off a DART bus in Windsor Heights each day. These updates improve the experience for those passengers and enhance safety for everyone in the area. Additionally, a separate bus lane for picking up and dropping off passengers will help alleviate congestion at this popular shopping destination," said DART Chief External Affair Officer Amanda Wanke.

The City of Windsor Heights, Colby Interests and Walmart worked with DART to complete the improvements this month, which included the installation of new bus shelters.



Caption: Riders wait at the previous bus stop at Walmart in Windsor Heights.



Caption: Rider boards a bus at the updated bus stop with improved waiting areas and a dedicated lane for buses to pick up and drop off passengers in Windsor Heights

"DART provides an essential service to our community. We were ecstatic to have this upgraded bus stop location, and hope this project will lead to continued collaboration on future development in this high traffic area," stated Mayor Burgess.

"With Windsor Heights hosting one of the busiest bus routes, an updated bus stop was exactly what we needed. We appreciate the efforts of Colby Interests, Walmart and DART for bringing this to fruition," stated Windsor Heights City Administrator Elizabeth Hansen.

"One of the core values of our company is to use creativity to grow opportunities and solve challenges. This project is a wonderful example of that kind of creative problem solving and we are so glad it all came together at our Walmart and Apple Valley Shopping Center development," stated Colby Interests President, Theresa Greenfield.

The project was introduced after DART received a federal grant through the Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program and a local match from Walmart.

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) is the public transportation provider in and around Polk County. DART operates a family of transportation services that connects thousands of people every day to jobs, school, medical appointments, entertainment and more. For more information about DART services, schedules, route changes, or directions to the nearest DART stop, visit the website at <u>ridedart.com</u> or call 515-283-8100.

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