



City of Glenwood Springs
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PRESS RELEASE

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RFTA to use Blake Avenue and Blake Gate as bus resting area beginning Tuesday

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, CO – The Roaring Fork Transit Authority (RFTA) currently uses a local commercial parking lot in south Glenwood Springs to accommodate required breaks for bus drivers. RFTA was informed on January 15 that this long-time practice would have to end by midnight on January 21. The City of Glenwood Springs has identified the northside of the Blake Gate as the only emergency parking spaces that would work for RFTA drivers and buses. The Blake Gate will remain closed to the public during this time but RFTA buses will be able to pass through and employees will be required to lock the gate after each use.

Unfortunately, this will impact parking for residents in the area and individuals that use the RFTA bus service. The City will place “No Parking Signs” and barricades to shut down the street to local traffic on Friday afternoon, January 17. The Glenwood Springs Police Department will begin parking enforcement on Saturday, January 18 to ensure that buses can access this area. This area will be plowed on Monday to accommodate buses that will begin staging there during their breaks beginning Tuesday.

“We recognize the positive impact RFTA has on this community and appreciate the patience and understanding of our residents as we work through this urgent situation. We hope to get more information out as soon as possible but are happy to assist RFTA to keep all bus routes throughout the region as viable options for transportation at this time,” stated Glenwood Springs Mayor Jonathan Godes.

The portion of Blake Avenue that will be used by RFTA is not currently used as a roadway and should not impact traffic along this stretch of Blake. The City will continue to evaluate other options and monitor the situation. This will hopefully be a short-term solution but there is not an estimated time frame for how long RFTA will use this area for bus parking.

There will be approximately 30 buses throughout the day parking in this area. While RFTA plans to keep most of the resting buses inside of the 27th Street Station, Blake Avenue at Blake Gate could see up to three buses parking there at any given time between the hours of 9 AM and 5 PM. Buses may need to idle in cold weather while parked there.

RFTA CEO Dan Blankenship stated, “We understand this situation is not ideal for many of our riders and we thank everyone for their patience as we work to determine a long-term solution.” RFTA encourages riders to use their website, www.rfta.com, to review all bus stops and schedules. Riders can also call 970-925-8484 for bus schedule information.

If possible, riders are encouraged to park at and use the West Glenwood Park and Ride on Wulfsohn Road as an alternative. Please note that there are 30 scheduled Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) trips originating or ending at the West Glenwood Park and Ride throughout the day, which stop at all local bus stops in Glenwood Springs to and from 27th Street. The nearest bus stop to 27th Street in Glenwood Springs is on Grand Avenue near 20th Street in front of the former Safeway location. For those commuting within Glenwood Springs, the Ride Glenwood stops and schedule can also be viewed on RFTA’s website.

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