

## **Green Notes: Mountain Line Adds Seven-Day Service, Expanded Nighttime Hours**

We have good news to share this morning! Today, Sunday, July 10, Mountain Line will expand to seven-day service and will operate later into the evening every day. Missoula's bus service will increase by 30 percent!

Now we need to increase ridership – and lower our city's greenhouse gas emissions. We could each start by taking the bus once a week, and work up from there.

"This is a transformative moment for Mountain Line," said Corey Aldridge, the bus system's CEO and general manager. Sunday bus service is a first for Missoula.

Although a national and local labor shortage threw off the agency's timeline for more than a year, Mountain Line managed to expand from 58 employees in April 2021 to 100 employees in April 2022.

Why is all that such big news? Because Missoula's most recent greenhouse gas inventory said the transportation sector accounts for 35% of our carbon emissions, with 84% coming from tailpipes. Add it up and Missoula's transportation sector alone equates to 2,100 rail cars worth of coal burned. Every year.

It's obvious why Mountain Line's continuing, rapid conversion to electric buses, and now its expanded service, are critical to our community reducing our greenhouse gas emissions. But none of these changes will have any impact unless we ride the bus! We need to drive fewer miles in our fossil fuel-burning cars!

We know what you're thinking: It takes longer to ride the bus than to drive my car. I don't know how to find the bus stops and times in my neighborhood. I don't know how to plan a route from my closest bus stop to my destination. We hear you.

Here's some information to get you started. Today's expanded bus service includes:

Sunday service from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.\*

Saturday service from 9 a.m. to 10:45 p.m.\*

Expanded weekday hours, from 6 a.m. to 10:45 p.m.\*

All-day service on Routes 4 and 11.

*\*Hours vary by route.*

Detailed schedules and more information can be found online at [mountainline.com/service-expansion](http://mountainline.com/service-expansion).

You can also call Mountain Line and the friendly folks there will help you with routes and times and planning your commute. The number is 406-721-3333.

AND, those of us on the Green Team are ready to help! Email Sherry Devlin at [sherrydevin@gmail.com](mailto:sherrydevin@gmail.com) and she or another Green Team member will help you find the information you need. Then let us know where you ride the bus this week!