Migrant Bus Arrivals in Lombard

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Is the Village of Lombard taking any action related to migrant bus arrivals in Chicago and surrounding communities?**

   The Village of Lombard is monitoring migrant bus arrivals to stay informed about the situation. This includes maintaining regular communication with surrounding municipalities, public safety agencies, the DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (OHSEM), and the Illinois Department of Human Services.

2. **Is the Village of Lombard providing financial assistance or shelter to migrants?**

   No. The Village of Lombard and Lombard Police Department are not providing financial assistance or shelter to migrants. If needed, Lombard Police will work with DuPage County OHSEM and local social service organizations, such as DuPage PADS, to assist in coordinating assistance.

3. **Have there been migrant bus arrivals within the Village of Lombard?**

   Yes. To date there have been 18 migrant bus arrivals in the Village of Lombard containing approximately 627 passengers in total. Lombard Police officers have been present at each arrival to ensure the safety and security of all passengers and residents. In connection with each bus arrival, officers have been communicating with DuPage County OHSEM who then coordinate with Metra and the City of Chicago for necessary accommodations. A few passengers from each bus remained in Lombard until they were picked up by known persons. All made a peaceful transition to Metra trains without incident.

4. **Is the City of Chicago still accepting asylum seekers?**

   Yes. The City of Chicago is coordinating with County and State emergency management officials to accept passengers at Chicago's designated "landing zone," the only designated location in the State of Illinois for asylum seekers.
5. **How many migrant buses have arrived in the area, and where do they drop off passengers?**

Between Dec. 14, 2023 and Feb. 1, 2024, 105 buses have arrived at train stations in DuPage County containing approximately 4,356 passengers in total, according to DuPage OHSEM. In each case, the bus company facilitates the purchase of train tickets for passengers to travel to their intended destination, which is the City of Chicago. With the assistance of DuPage OHSEM, contact is made with Metra and City of Chicago to coordinate for passenger safety.

6. **Are there any incidents or issues with passengers who remain behind for pick-ups in the area?**

In some cases, a small number of bus passengers have pre-arranged pick-ups from family or friends. Based on the information gathered, there have been no issues or incidents with this practice.

7. **Is the Village of Lombard planning any further action regulating or restricting migrant bus arrivals?**

At this time, the Village of Lombard is not planning any further action or legislation relative to bus arrivals. However, the situation will continue to be monitored, and any necessary actions will be determined based on ongoing assessments and communication with surrounding municipalities, public safety agencies, the DuPage County OHSEM, and the Illinois Department of Human Services.

In the event of any significant changes, information will be posted on the Village website and social media channels.

8. **How can residents help or donate items?**

Residents interested in supporting asylum seekers by donating food, clothing, or small household items are encouraged to visit the City of Chicago’s website at [https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/texas-new-arrivals/home/donations.html](https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/texas-new-arrivals/home/donations.html).

Food and clothing donations should not be taken to the train station as we have been advised that the bus passengers should not be taking additional belongings and that their needs will be met when they reach the “landing station” in Chicago.

**Related Resources**

- State Update on New Landing Zone, Shelter Site
- Nearly 3,000 Asylum Seekers Pass Through DuPage County