

April 21, 2014

**Penn State Altoona-** Starting next fall Penn State Altoona and Amtran have cut funds and no longer will be supplying bus transportation to off campus housing.

Penn State Altoona is home to over three thousand students and only nine hundred are provided on campus housing. Two bus systems run to the off campus student housing, but how will this go over with the one loop being cut? Talking to surveyors hired by Amtran they concluded that the Blue loop is still remaining because the landlords offered to pay Amtran, although the White loop did not agree to pay so that loop is the one being cut.

Many students will be affected by this change starting the next fall semester. What also should be considered is how this will affect the off campus housing market. Many students spoke out about this change, saying that “ it is a very big inconvenience, how are the people who live at College Park supposed to get down?” Another student commented on the weather and the below freezing temperatures that we face in Altoona and how this is going to negatively affect him. Others made comments about not living off campus if that is the case. Amtran who provides the buses and drivers had no comment, but Amtran did hire surveyors to take a closer look at this change.

The surveyors were riding the buses along with the students taking notes and polls on how the students feel about this modification. When interviewing the two surveyors they had no comments about the information they gathered. How will this affect students, off campus housing, Penn State Altoona’s reputation altogether? As this is an ongoing topic and starts to unfold we have yet to see how these changes will play out for the students at Penn State Altoona.

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