NEWSLETTER · THE CHATP DISPATCH · ISSUE 6 · WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2026

Five Nights, Six Events: The Busiest Downtown Stretch of the Fall

Journey, SOMBR, two Cavs games, the Browns at home and a Sunday-night arena show, all between Thursday and Monday. The weather turns cold and wet just as it starts.

Weekly briefing for Cleveland airport drivers and the people who ride with them. Published every Wednesday by CHATP Airport Transportation.

DRIVER QUICK CARD

This week in 30 seconds

- **The money:** five straight busy nights downtown. **Thu 11/12:** Journey, Rocket Arena, 7:30 PM. **Fri 11/13:** SOMBR, Rocket Arena, 7:30 PM. **Sat 11/14:** Cavs vs. Dallas, 7:30 PM. **Sun 11/15:** Browns vs. Houston at Huntington Bank Field, 1:00 PM, then the Cash Money & No Limit Tour at Rocket Arena, 7:00 PM. **Mon 11/16:** Cavs vs. Chicago, 7:00 PM (Rocket Arena; ClevelandBrowns.com).
- **Hopkins banks:** the newest saved CHATP board shows **12 arrivals in the 6 PM hour** and **10 in the 3 PM hour**. Mornings peak at 9 AM and 1 PM.
- **Closed until further notice:** the SR 176 N / I-71 N ramp to I-90 W (News 5). Lane restrictions continue on Huron and Ontario near Rocket Arena (Rocket Arena).
- **Gas:** easing. Cleveland averaged **$4.20**, down 23¢ in a week (GasBuddy via WKYC, 11/2). Midwest regular was **$4.10** (EIA).
- **Taxes:** log every business mile at 76¢ (IRS).
- **Route:** Hopkins to the Browns game: I-71 N to I-90 E, then the Ontario St exit. The Shoreway (SR 2) exits near the stadium close on game day.
- **Weather:** today is mostly cloudy, high 58°F, with showers arriving after 1 AM (NWS). **Thursday brings widespread, at times heavy rain.** Friday is around 40°F with showers and possibly the first flakes (News 5).
- **Bottom line:** stage for Thursday through Sunday night, leave early Thursday, and build Sunday around two events.

Lead DOWNTOWN

From Thursday through next Monday, downtown has a major event every night. Journey plays Rocket Arena Thursday at 7:30 PM, SOMBR plays Friday at 7:30 PM, and the Cavs host Dallas Saturday at 7:30 PM. Sunday doubles up: the Browns host Houston at Huntington Bank Field at 1:00 PM, then the Cash Money &

No Limit Tour plays Rocket Arena at 7:00 PM. The Cavs return Monday 11/16 at 7:00 PM against Chicago (Rocket Arena event calendar; Cleveland 19, 11/8).

> **What it means here:** the week turns cold and wet just as the event run starts. News 5 forecasts widespread rain Thursday, at times heavy, and a 40-degree Friday with showers (News 5). Wet nights push concertgoers toward pre-booked rides. A PUCO-licensed livery ride is reserved ahead, so book returns at drop-off. Get the rider's exit door and a set pickup corner a block off Huron and Ontario. On Sunday, the stadium crowd clears in the late afternoon and the arena crowd arrives in the evening. One driver can work both.

Radar WHERE THE RIDES ARE

CLE arrival banks (from CHATP flight data): the newest saved board (Wed 11/4, 2–7 PM ET, 41 passenger flights) shows 5 arrivals in the 2 PM hour, **10 in the 3 PM hour** (PHX, RSW x2, DCA, ATL, ORD x2, MSP, EWR, JFK), 4 at 4 PM, 8 at 5 PM, and **12 in the 6 PM hour** (YYZ, PHL, DTW, ATL, JFK, FLL, DFW, Dublin, LGA, ORD, IAD, DCA). Delays were mostly under 20 minutes; the worst was a Los Angeles arrival 30 minutes late. The 10/29 board showed the morning peaks: 9 arrivals in each of the 9 AM and 1 PM hours.

Field rule: be staged at 9 AM, 1 PM, 3 PM and 6–7 PM. Use 4 PM for fuel and food. The 6 PM bank and the 7:30 PM arena shows overlap, so pick one per night.

Events driving rides

- All week — Private Lives (Cleveland Play House), Outcalt Theatre, through 11/22
- Wed 11/11 (today) — Veterans Day (federal holiday)
- **Thu 11/12 — Journey: Final Frontier Tour, Rocket Arena, 7:30 PM**; Daniel Sloss, Mimi Ohio Theatre
- **Fri 11/13 — SOMBR: You Are The Reason Tour, Rocket Arena, 7:30 PM**; Michael Kosta, Hanna Theatre; John Cameron Mitchell's Hedwig 25th Anniversary Movie Tour, Mimi Ohio Theatre
- Fri–Sun 11/13–15 — Cleveland Dance Fest, Westfield Studio Theatre
- **Sat 11/14 — Cavs vs. Dallas, Rocket Arena, 7:30 PM**; The Uncle Louie Variety Show, Hanna Theatre
- **Sun 11/15 — Browns vs. Houston, Huntington Bank Field, 1:00 PM; Cash Money & No Limit Tour, Rocket Arena, 7:00 PM**
- Coming up: Cavs vs. Chicago (Mon 11/16, 7:00 PM), Monsters vs. Hamilton (Tue 11/17), Cavs vs. Memphis (Wed 11/18), Pentatonix (Thu 11/19), Cavs vs. Indiana (Fri 11/20)

Event sources: Rocket Arena events · Playhouse Square calendar · ClevelandBrowns.com schedule

Driver-ops weather: dry today. Thursday's rain will slow Hopkins arrivals and leave wet ramps. Friday's chill and showers may bring the first flakes, with no accumulation expected. See Weather below.

Cleveland THIS WEEK

- **Ramp closed until further notice:** ODOT closed the SR 176 north / I-71 north ramp to I-90 west on 10/16 for pavement repairs. No reopening has been announced (Cleveland 19). Posted detour: I-490 east → I-77 north → Woodland Ave → I-77 south → I-490 west.
- **Downtown near Rocket Arena:** lane restrictions remain on Huron Rd. and Ontario St. between the Detroit-Superior and Lorain-Carnegie bridges. Huron is one-way eastbound toward E. 9th, and Prospect is one-way westbound toward Ontario. After events, the on-site garage still empties west on Huron to Ontario (Rocket Arena). The eastbound I-90 exit to E. 9th St. stays listed as closed until a reopening is confirmed.
- **Veterans Day, today (Wed 11/11):** a federal holiday. Expect lighter commuter traffic and some closed government offices.
- **Hopkins has a new look:** Cleveland Hopkins and Burke Lakefront unveiled new logos and the tagline "Where the Land Meets the Sky" on 11/5. The rollout will be phased across the airport's facilities (Spectrum News 1, 11/6). Expect new signs over the coming months.

Game Day SPORTS

- **Browns (5-4):** lost 23-22 in overtime at New Orleans on Sunday 11/8 after a two-point try for the win fell incomplete. It was their second straight loss (Cleveland 19; BrownsZone). **Home this week: Sun 11/15 vs. Houston, 1:00 PM, Huntington Bank Field (FOX)** (ClevelandBrowns.com).
- **Cavaliers: home this week: Sat 11/14 vs. Dallas, 7:30 PM.** Next home game after that: Mon 11/16 vs. Chicago, 7:00 PM (Rocket Arena).
- **Guardians:** offseason. **Monsters:** no home games this week. Next is Tue 11/17 vs. Hamilton, 7:00 PM (Rocket Arena).
- **Getting to Huntington Bank Field:** on game day, the West 3rd and East 9th exits off Route 2 (the Shoreway) are closed to non-passholders. Use the I-90 exits at Ontario, Prospect or Superior. Rolling closures on E. 9th and W. 3rd can start up to 4 hours before kickoff. The stadium lists rideshare drop-off and pickup **anywhere on Lakeside Ave between W. 3rd and E. 9th** (Huntington Bank Field). RTA's Waterfront Line runs to the W. 3rd St. station in front of the stadium (RTA).
- **Getting to Rocket Arena (1 Center Court):** the on-site garages are the Great Day Improvements Garage (formerly Gateway East) and the JACK Casino garage. Lyft is the arena's official rideshare partner, and the arena publishes no pickup-zone map (Rocket Arena).
- **When the rush clears (CHATP field note, an estimate):** a 1:00 PM Browns kickoff ends around 4:00–4:15 PM, and Lakeside stays jammed for about 45 minutes after. A 7:30 PM arena start lets out around 10:00–10:30 PM. Pickup demand peaks in the first 20–30 minutes. Wait a block or two off the main exits, set pickups on Prospect or E. 4th, and stay out of the garage exit flow onto Huron.

Curb Report MILES

"Here's your week. Today, work the airport. Thursday it turns: Journey on a rainy night, and that crowd doesn't want to walk to a garage in the rain. SOMBR Friday is a younger crowd, so expect a lot of last-minute requests. Cavs Saturday. Then Sunday is the big one: Browns at one, arena show at seven. Pick up stadium fans on Lakeside, grab a sandwich, then head over for the evening. And watch Friday morning. If those first flakes stick to a bridge deck, give yourself extra time on the 5 AM Hopkins run."

By the Numbers ALEX

NUMBER	WHAT IT IS
6	Major downtown events in five nights, Thursday through Monday (Rocket Arena; ClevelandBrowns.com)
12	CLE passenger arrivals in the 6 PM hour (CHATP saved board, 11/4)
$4.20 / −23.2¢	Cleveland average regular gas and its one-week drop (GasBuddy via WKYC, 11/2)
$4.102 / −16.7¢	Midwest regular, week of 11/2, and its weekly change (EIA via FRED)
$6.402	Midwest diesel, week of 11/2, down from $6.480 (EIA via FRED)
5-4	Browns after the 23-22 overtime loss at New Orleans (Cleveland 19)
~$500 million	What airlines have committed toward Hopkins' terminal program (News 5, 11/5)
1	Roads into the Hopkins terminal. Route 237 is the only access (News 5, 11/5)

"Gas dropped 23 cents in a week. On a 1,000-mile week at 25 miles per gallon, that's 40 gallons, or about nine dollars saved. Put it toward washer fluid, because Thursday is going to use a lot of it." — Alex

Weather DRIVER OPERATIONS

- **Wed 11/11 (today):** mostly cloudy and breezy, high in the upper 50s. Showers move in after 1 AM tonight (NWS; News 5).
- **Thu 11/12: widespread rain, at times heavy**, high 49. Lows drop into the 30s overnight. Expect slower Hopkins arrivals and slick ramps, and leave 10 minutes earlier for the evening concert runs (News 5).

- **Fri 11/13:** chilly, high around 40, with showers. The first snowflakes are possible, with no meaningful accumulation expected. Frost and freeze are possible Thursday and Friday nights, so watch bridge decks and the I-480 ramps on 5 AM runs (News 5).
- **Weekend:** clouds stay thick into Saturday, with a chance of rain. Sunday turns partly sunny, high near 48, and looks dry for the Browns game. Next week turns milder with more sun (NWS; Ohio Ag Net, 11/8).

The Locker DRIVER BENEFITS

- **ACA Marketplace (HealthCare.gov, used in Ohio):** 2027 open enrollment is underway. Enroll by Dec 15 for coverage starting Jan 1 (HealthCare.gov).
- **Medicare Open Enrollment:** runs through Dec 7. Changes take effect Jan 1 (Medicare.gov).
- **Mileage:** 76¢ per business mile from Jul 1 to Dec 31, 2026 (IRS). Log the start, stop and purpose of every trip, including deadhead miles to Hopkins and the stadium.
- **Q4 estimated tax:** due Jan 15, 2027.
- **Winter check:** before Thursday, check your wiper blades, washer fluid and tire pressure. Cold nights drop tire pressure.

Route of the Week HOPKINS → HUNTINGTON BANK FIELD

From the airport, take I-71 north to I-90 east through the Innerbelt and exit at Ontario St. Head north on Ontario to Lakeside Ave, where the stadium's listed rideshare zone runs from W. 3rd to E. 9th. The SR 176 closure is on the ramp to I-90 **west**, so it doesn't affect this route. Avoid the Shoreway (SR 2), because its stadium exits close on game day. **CHATP tip (field note):** drop off at the east end of Lakeside near E. 9th, away from the W. 3rd backup. For the return, set the pickup corner when you drop the rider off. On the way back to Hopkins, reverse the route: I-90 west to I-71 south. For Sunday night's arena show, stay downtown and stage on Prospect.

Hopkins Renovation Watch STANDING LOG

Photos: none this week. Drive the loop and see something new? Text a photo (garage, curb or the Gold Lot construction) to 216-293-6500 and it goes in next Wednesday.

- **The plan, step by step:** the 1,600-space Gold Lot broke ground in July and opens spring 2027. Next come an underground RTA Red Line station, then an eight-level garage of about 6,000 spaces that replaces today's garage. The new terminal will rise on the current garage site, with a ribbon-cutting planned for 2032. Replacing the concourses comes later, in the late 2030s (News 5, 11/5).
- **Money:** phase one is a working estimate of $1.6 billion. Airlines have committed nearly $500 million, and officials plan to seek funding approval around mid-2027. The airport is funded by user fees, not local taxes (News 5, 11/5).
- **Game-day access:** Route 237 is the only road into the terminal. Officials are coordinating with the Browns' Brook Park stadium developers, Brook Park, NOACA and possibly ODOT to keep it open on game days (News 5, 11/5).

- **New brand:** new logos and the tagline "Where the Land Meets the Sky," launched 11/5. The rollout is phased (Spectrum News 1, 11/6).
- **Right now:** no specific curb or roadway closures at the terminal have been announced. We'll list them here the week they're posted.

Close

A quiet Veterans Day, then a wet Thursday and five big nights in a row, with the Browns home Sunday. Check your wipers, book the return before the drop, and log the miles. See you next Wednesday. Book or drive with us at airport-transportation.net · Dispatch 216-321-3000.

Sources

- Browns 23-22 OT loss, 5-4 (11/8/26) — cleveland19.com ; brownszone.com
- Browns vs. Texans, Sun 11/15, 1 PM, FOX — clevelandbrowns.com ; thescore.com
- Rocket Arena events (Journey, SOMBR, Cavs, Cash Money & No Limit, Monsters, Pentatonix) — rocketarena.com/events
- Rocket Arena parking, street changes, lane restrictions — rocketarena.com/directions-parking
- Playhouse Square calendar (Private Lives, Daniel Sloss, Hedwig, Michael Kosta, Uncle Louie, Dance Fest) — playhousesquare.org/events
- Huntington Bank Field rideshare and game-day road closures — huntingtonbankfield.com ; RTA game-day rail — riderta.com
- SR 176 ramp closure (10/16/26) — news5cleveland.com ; cleveland19.com
- Weather — news5cleveland.com (11/9/26) ; weather.gov Cleveland forecast ; ocj.com (11/8/26)
- Gas: Cleveland, GasBuddy (11/2/26) — yahoo.com / WKYC ; EIA Midwest regular and diesel, week of 11/2 — FRED GASREGMWW ; FRED GASDESMWW
- Hopkins makeover plan (11/5/26) — news5cleveland.com
- Hopkins/Burke rebrand (11/6/26) — spectrumnews1.com
- IRS mileage — irs.gov ; ACA — healthcare.gov ; Medicare — medicare.gov
- CLE arrival banks — CHATP flight data (saved arrival boards, 11/4/26 2–7 PM ET and 10/29/26 9 AM–2 PM ET)

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