

# SHANGHAI NOW

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The public traffic hub on Lujiabang Rd near the Nanpu Bridge has been dubbed the “most beautiful bus stop” in Shanghai. Local metro stations and bus stops have become increasingly popular spots in springtime, with beautiful photos and videos of cherry blossoms going viral on social media. — Ti Gong

## Shanghai introduces ‘Change Wallets’ & smaller bills at ATMs

Staff Reporter

SOME big news regarding changes to Shanghai’s payment processing and ATM eco-system, aimed at making things way more convenient for foreign residents and travelers. There are two big updates on the horizon: smaller bills at ATMs, and “change wallets” at banks.

Remember when finding an ATM that would graciously allow you to withdraw your money felt like a minor victory? Now, imagine one that hands out 10 yuan (US\$1.38) notes. Yes, you read that right. Gone are the days of being handed a wad of 100 yuan notes for a simple withdrawal.

Efforts are underway to retrofit cash machines in key areas to dispense 10 yuan notes. These areas include both of Shanghai’s airports, it’s three main train stations, both cruise terminals, 4A scenic spots, and star-rated hotels, as well as these 12 popular commercial areas in Shanghai.

### Get “change” at banks

In a city as diverse as Shanghai, inclusivity is key. While tech-savvy youth zip through

transactions with a flick of their smartphones, the elderly and some expats often find themselves at a digital divide.

Recognizing this, banks are not just stopping at ATMs; they’re introducing “change wallets.”

A “change wallet” comes as a plastic or paper envelope, filled with small denomination cash notes or coins, designed primarily for merchants and consumers for convenient change-making.

Either you have a bank card at the bank you are visiting, and they can give you a change wallet based on the amount you need. OR, you can go into any commercial bank and give them cash to get a change wallet in exchange.

No extra fee is needed for this service.



A “change wallet” offers a mix of small denomination bills and coins tailored to the needs of merchants and consumers.

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