Hours changing at Atchison Walmart

(KAIR)--A rumor circulating on social media regarding changes to the operations of Atchison's Walmart store is confirmed.

On Tuesday, posts regarding a potential change in the hours of operation at the supercenter, located at 1920 U.S. Highway 73, began to swirl, saying that the longstanding 24-hour operations would soon cease.

That's now confirmed following an inquiry made by MSC Radio News.

According to a statement released by Senior Manager, National Media Relation Casey Staheli, the 24-hour-a-day service will end October 5.

The statement says that on that date, the store will begin operating from 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. daily.

The change comes after what the statement calls "a recent review of shopping patterns" at the Atchison store, which led to the decision to adjust hours and reallocate resources to better serve customers during peak shopping periods.

The statement does not address social media comments claiming that the change is due to the high number of thefts at the Atchison Walmart location, which, in recent months, began the policy of employees checking customer receipts as they exit the store if items are unbagged, despite MSC News seeking confirmation on that claim.

According to a report from <u>NPR</u>, the policy of checking receipts took effect earlier this year following the controversial decision to eliminate the role of door greeters at 1,000 U.S. Walmart stores. Instead, that position was replaced with "customer hosts" whose expanded responsibilities include checking receipts, according to the <u>Associated Press</u>.

According to a statement released by Walmart following a separate inquiry, receipts are checked at exits when customers exit with "unbagged, large items such as TVs, computers, furniture, power equipment, etc."

That policy led to an investigation by <u>ABC10</u> in Folsom, California in February. A Walmart spokesperson, at that time, told the TV station that Walmart's "intent is to check every receipt."