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News & Events

Metro Transit's response to the coronavirus (COVID-19)

Last update: Friday, April 10

To prevent the spread of the coronavirus, transit should be used for essential travel only. Reducing demand will make transit safer for operators and those who have no alternatives but to take transit.

Examples of essential travel include:

- Commuting to an essential sector job that cannot be performed at home. Essential sectors include healthcare, public safety, food and child care.
- Obtaining groceries or other necessary supplies.
- Seeking medical services and medications (**do not take transit if sick**).
- To care for a family member, friend or pet in another household.

See Gov. Walz's Stay at Home Executive Order for more information on acceptable reasons to leave home.

Help slow the spread

Those who must leave home for an essential reason and have no other option but to take transit should remember to:

- Leave space between themselves and other passengers and the operator, and use the rear door if able to do so.
- If there appears to be more than 10 passengers on a bus or train, wait for the next trip when possible.
- Wear a cloth face covering.
- Cough/sneeze into a tissue or a sleeve.
- Regularly and thoroughly wash hands, or use hand sanitizer when it is not possible to wash hands.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends wearing a cloth face covering while in public settings where it may be difficult to maintain social distancing. For everyone's protection, operators may wear cloth masks at this time. For additional guidance on wearing masks, visit the Minnesota Department of Health's website.

Metro Transit is supporting these efforts by regularly disinfecting vehicles and busy boarding areas, encouraging those who feel ill to stay home and taking measures to encourage social distancing.

Plan ahead

Review schedules before leaving home and use NexTrip to access real-time departure information. For help planning a trip, call 612-373-3333 or text 612-444-1161. Please be advised that:

- Buses are operating on a reduced service schedule and light rail trains are operating every 20 minutes. All service has been suspended between 11 p.m. and 4:30 a.m.
- Many indoor waiting areas are closed.
- Metro Transit's Service Centers and the Lost & Found window are closed.

Stay informed

For the latest information from Metro Transit continue to visit this page, follow Metro Transit on Twitter and Facebook or call 612-373-3333. Learn more about contacting Metro Transit at metrotransit.org/contact-us. For the latest information on the state's response to the coronavirus visit mn.gov/covid19.

Show your support

Metro Transit's operators, maintenance staff and police officers are critical to the region's response to the coronavirus. Remember, we're all **In This Together**. Please consider showing your support by:

- Sending a note to an operator you miss through this online form (select commendation)
- Sending a card to any Metro Transit bus garage or light rail facility (find addresses here)
- Sharing your appreciation on social media using the #InThisTogether
- Submitting an encouraging video to drew.kerr@metrotransit.org (see examples here)

Ridership

For the week of March 30-April 3, average weekday ridership on all modes was estimated to be down approximately 66%. The busiest bus routes were the 5, 10, 17, 18 and 21. If you must travel and plan to use these routes, please consider alternative trip options.

For shorter trips, consider walking or biking, if able to do so. Many Nice Ride stations are located near transit.

Do your part to slow the spread. Use Metro Transit for essential travel only.

Metro Transit reduced service on Wednesday, March 25. Learn more.

Overnight bus and light rail service is suspended daily between 11 p.m. and 4:30 a.m. Get details.

