

Federal Mask Policy

Masks Now Required on Buses and at All Transfer Points and Shelters

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued an [Order](#) [↗](#) that requires riders and employees to wear masks to prevent spread the spread of COVID-19.

It is now a federal law that masks must be worn when boarding, disembarking, and for the duration of travel. Masks must also be worn by riders and employees at all transfer points and shelters.



[READ ORDER](#) [↗](#)

How is this different than Metro's previous mask rule?

Masks are now required to cover both the mouth and nose, whether on the bus or at a transfer point or shelter.

Masks must be worn at all times, i.e. getting on the bus, during the ride, and leaving the bus.

The Order defines what kind of mask must be worn:

- Cloth masks should be made with two or more layers of a breathable fabric that is tightly woven (i.e., fabrics that do not let light pass through when held up to a light source).
- Mask should be secured to the head with ties, ear loops, or elastic bands that go behind the head. If gaiters are worn, they should have two layers of fabric or be folded to make two layers.

- Mask should fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face.
- Mask should be a solid piece of material without slits, exhalation valves, or punctures.

The Order also defines what masks do not fulfill the requirements of the order. Masks that are not acceptable include:

- Masks worn in a way that does not cover both the mouth and nose
- Face shields or goggles (face shields or goggles may be worn to supplement a mask that meets above required attributes)
- Scarves, ski masks, balaclavas, or bandanas
- Shirt or sweater collars (e.g., turtleneck collars) pulled up over the mouth and nose.
- Masks made from loosely woven fabric or that are knitted, i.e., fabrics that let light pass through
- Masks made from materials that are hard to breathe through (such as vinyl, plastic or leather)
- Masks containing slits, exhalation valves, or punctures
- Masks that do not fit properly (large gaps, too loose or too tight)

The Order also states those not in compliance *may* not be allowed to ride.

If you need a mask, please call (608) 266-4466 or email mymetrobus@cityofmadison.com.

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(608) 266-4466

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Justin Stuehrenberg, General Manager

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