



**NMDOT Transit and Rail Division
Guidance for Transit Agencies
COVID-19 Pandemic Response**

2/22/22

The current New Mexico Department of Health Public Health Order is available at this link:

<https://cv.nmhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/021722-PHO-Masksfv.pdf>

Federal law still requires passengers and drivers (with limited exceptions) to wear a properly fitting mask at all times on public transit vehicles. See links below for more information.

The following guidance is still recommended:

- Maintain regular and extensive cleaning of transit vehicles and facilities.
- Add protective barriers to reduce close contact between drivers and passengers.
- Follow the direction of Federal, State, and local public health and law enforcement agencies. This local and State information generally is coordinated with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and the Department of Homeland Security and is the most accurate assessment of the situation locally.
- Continue to communicate to the public that they should not take transit if they are sick. Message: if you are showing symptoms, stay home, but if you cannot, please use an alternate mode of transportation.
- Closely monitor employee absenteeism and direct employees not to come to work if they are sick.
- Suspend fare collection for fixed-route services, where practical, to reduce the interaction with transit drivers and limit contact with high-touch surfaces.
- Use rear-door boarding, where possible, to reduce contact between drivers and passengers.
- Provide access to alcohol-based hand sanitizer (or soap, running water, and drying materials) for employees and customers.
- Avoid using the recirculated air option for vehicle ventilation. Instead, use vehicle vents and lowered windows.
- Encourage passengers to refrain from shouting to decrease airborne droplets, which may contain the virus.

Additional resources:

- [FTA FAQs Regarding COVID-19](#)
- [USDOT FAQ's on Mask Mandate](#)
- [Executive Order on Promoting COVID-19 Safety in Domestic and International Travel](#)
- [CDC Order: Requirement for Persons to Wear Masks While on Conveyances and at Transportation Hubs](#)
- [TSA COVID-19 Hub](#)
- [Department of Homeland Security – Essential Critical Infrastructure](#)
- [CDC COVID-19 Resource Page](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Bus Transit Operators](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Rail Transit Operators](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Transit Maintenance Workers](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Transit Station Workers](#)
- [EPA List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#)
- [APTA Resources on COVID-19](#)
- [CTAA COVID-19 Resources](#)