Public Health Guidance for Transportation

Bus Transit

**Conduct Risk Assessment**
Establish critical protective guidelines. Consider the following questions:

- Are there locations where employees routinely congregate?
- Are tools and equipment frequently shared by multiple employees?
- Does customer flow allow for social distancing measures?
- Where are areas in your business that would not allow customers and staff to properly distance?
- Who are your high risk employees?
- Is your business actively engaged in activities that promote disease transmission?
- Does your business have existing cleaning and disinfecting procedures?
- How quickly can you communicate with employees?
- Are communication resources needed in multiple languages?

**Physical Distancing**
Establish policies and procedures for social distancing. Consider the following:

- Limit close contact with others by maintaining a distance of at least six feet, when possible.
- Consider asking bus passengers to enter and exit the bus through rear entry doors.
- Request passengers avoid standing or sitting within six feet of bus driver.
- Close every other row of seats.

**Engineering & Environmental Controls**
Improve engineering controls and perform routine environmental cleaning.
Consider the following:

- Support respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene for employees and customers:
  - Provide tissues, no-touch disposal receptacles, and soap and water in the workplace (if not readily available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol). Ensure adequate supplies are maintained and place hand sanitizers in multiple locations.
  - Place posters that encourage hand hygiene to help stop the spread of COVID-19 at the entrance to your workplace and in other areas where they are likely to be seen.
  - Discourage handshaking – encourage the use of other non-contact methods of greeting.
  - Direct employees to visit CDC website for information on coughing and sneezing etiquette and handwashing.
- Perform routine environmental cleaning and disinfection:
  - Routinely disinfect all frequently touched surfaces, including surfaces in the driver cockpit commonly touched by the operator.
  - For disinfection, most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products.
- Institute measures to physically separate bus operator from passengers by use of physical partitions or visual cues (floor decals, signs, colored tape).
- Install physical barriers such as plastic guards and partitions at staffed kiosks and on transit vehicles to the extent practicable.
Engineering & Environmental Controls (continued)
Improve engineering controls and perform routine environmental cleaning.

Consider the following:
- Use touchless payment and no-touch trash cans and doors as much as possible, when available. Ask customers and employees to exchange cash or credit cards by placing in a receipt tray or on the counter rather than by hand and wipe any pens, counters, or hard surfaces between each use or customer.
- Avoid using or sharing items that are not easily cleaned, sanitized or disinfected, such as disposable transit maps.
- Ensure that ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors at transit center.

Administrative Controls
Establish administrative controls while employees and visitors are onsite.

Consider the following:
- Identify a workplace coordinator who will be responsible for COVID-19 issues and their impact at the workplace.
  - Implement daily health and temperature screenings for employees upon arriving to work.
  - Employees should know who the workplace coordinator is and how to contact them.
- Review Human Resource policies to make sure that policies and practices are consistent with both public health recommendations and existing state and federal workplace laws.
  - Implement flexible sick leave and supportive policies and practices.
  - Ensure that sick leave policies are flexible and consistent with public health guidance and provide employee training on new policies. If sick leave is not a benefit, it is recommended that the employer draft a non-punitive emergency sick leave policy.
  - Maintain flexible policies that permit employees to stay home to care for a sick family member or take care of children due to school/daycare closures.
  - Employers should not require a positive COVID-19 test result or a healthcare provider’s note for employees who are sick to validate their illness, qualify for sick leave, or to return to work.
  - Connect employees to Employee Assistance Program (EAP) resources and community resources as needed. Employees may need additional social, behavioral, and other services for mental health support.
  - Actively encourage sick employees to stay home. Sick employees should not return to work until criteria to discontinue home isolation is met.
- Assess essential functions and the reliance that the community has on your services/products.
  - Be prepared to change your business practices, if needed, to maintain critical operations.
  - Identify alternate supply chains for critical goods and services as some may be in higher demand or unavailable.
  - Talk with companies that provide your business with contract or temporary employees about the importance of sick employees staying home and encourage them to develop non-punitive leave policies.
Administrative Controls (continued)

Establish administrative controls while employees and visitors are onsite.

Consider the following:

- Assess essential functions and the reliance that the community has on your services/products (continued).
  - Determine how you will operate if absenteeism spikes from increases in sick employees, those who stay home to care for sick family members, and those who must stay home to watch their children. Plan to monitor and respond to absenteeism in the workplace. Implement plans to continue your essential business functions. Prepare to institute flexible workplace and leave policies. Cross-train employees to perform essential functions so the workplace can operate even if key employees are absent.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Require the appropriate type of PPE for employees and customers.

Consider the following:

- Wear cloth face coverings when social distancing not easy to maintain.
- Use gloves when removing garbage bags or handling and disposing of trash; use when disinfecting frequently touched areas; wash hands afterwards.