

Dial-A-Ride

How Dial-A-Ride Public Transportation Is Responding to the Coronavirus

March 16, 2020—The safety of Dial-A-Ride’s customers is always our top priority. Therefore, we are closely monitoring the coronavirus situation, and taking action based on guidance from public health experts, such as those at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

You should know that, while efforts to contain the coronavirus (a.k.a. COVID-19) are still evolving, Dial-A-Ride has already taken steps to help ensure that passengers have healthy travel experiences.

How We Clean and Disinfect Our Buses

Dial-A-Ride uses disinfectant on all buses to kill most germs that cause communicable diseases. At least once a day hard surfaces on each bus is wiped down. This includes but is not limited to:

- ☑ Passenger doors
- ☑ Hand rails at the entrance of each bus
- ☑ Window ledges throughout the passenger compartment
- ☑ Arm rests at each seat, as well as seatbelt buckles
- ☑ The driver’s steering wheel and surrounding hard surfaces

We frequently spray Lysol disinfectant throughout each bus.

How to Help Keep Yourself and Others Safe

According to the CDC, the person-to-person spread of COVID-19 appears to occur mainly by respiratory transmission (i.e., coughing and sneezing). Signs and symptoms include fever, cough, and shortness of breath, which usually occur within 2–14 days after exposure. Older adults and persons with underlying health conditions or compromised immune systems may be at greater risk for severe illness from this virus.

The CDC recommends that everyone follow these everyday prevention practices:

- ☑ Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- ☑ Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- ☑ Stay home when you are sick.
- ☑ Cover your cough or sneeze with your elbow or with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- ☑ Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning product.
- ☑ Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- ☑ If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60%–95% alcohol.

Also, studies have shown that “social distancing”—i.e., avoiding close contact—can reduce the community spread and impact of infectious germs such as pandemic flu, even when drug treatments and vaccines are not available.

We will continue to monitor this situation and communicate updates with our customers. Updates as they develop will be posted on our website at <http://www.dialaridetransit.org/> please check there for service reductions.