



## **TAHOE TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT TRANSIT RESPONDS TO COVID-19 THREAT**

*COVID-19 Impacts Tahoe Transportation District transit services while TTD seeks public input to adjust routes and runs to rider usage.*

**March 21, 2020** (*STATELINE, Nev.*) – In an effort to best accommodate and keep safe as many transit riders as possible during the unprecedented outbreak of COVID-19, Tahoe Transportation District is asking riders to contact them noting which routes and runs are most important to them. In addition, TTD has implemented safety measures for riders and employees to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

“It’s very likely that TTD will need to adjust transit service due to staff shortages and very low ridership related to the spread of COVID-19 and both Nevada and California’s ‘shelter in place’ requirements ordered by California Governor Newsom and Nevada Governor Sisolak. We’ll be using rider input to adjust our services, so please email or call us,” said Carl Hasty, district manager, TTD. “In addition, enhanced safety procedures have been put in place.”

TTD is cleaning and sanitizing buses each evening. Operators are wiping down frequently touched surfaces during the service day. Additionally, posters are onboard and in transit centers reminding riders to follow the Center for Disease Control preventative measures. Together, we can best aid in preventing the spread of the illness by following recommendations from health organizations and officials (e.g. CDC, federal government, El Dorado County Public Health, etc.).

According to both Governor Newsom and Governor Sisolak, public transit is classified as an essential community service, and it can be used during a shelter in place regulation. In addition, under federal regulations, public transit is part of the emergency response system.

TTD’s transit services will adhere to COVID-19 advisory precautions and health and safety regulations issued from the CDC along with federal, state, county, and local health departments and leaders. The [CDC](#) recommends the following to protect yourself and others:

- Wash hands regularly with soap and warm water for at least twenty seconds. Please follow this procedure prior to riding public transit. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow, **NOT INTO YOUR HANDS.**
- Keep at least six feet away from other people, even when waiting for the bus.

- Do not take public transportation if you are sick or not feeling well. Stay home. Call your healthcare provider for guidance.

“The TTD board and staff want to thank the public for their understanding, cooperation, and input, as we work together to serve and protect our community,” noted Hasty. “We will continue to monitor and adjust service, but we would like to hear from our riders which routes and runs are most important for their needs. Please contact TTD with your information and most important rides and route information.”

Please email your information to [planning@tahoetransporation.org](mailto:planning@tahoetransporation.org) or call 775.589.5500, option 2.

Note this “Rider Alert”: Routes 19x and 22 Passengers: The Douglas County Community and Senior Resource Center is closed until April 6, 2020. The Senior Resource Center for Douglas County “Senior Wheels” program is providing transportation to scheduled medical appointments and to the grocery store. For more information, call 785.727.7876 or visit their [website](#).

For more information about TTD and Transit service updated routes and schedules, please visit [www.TahoeTransportation.org/transit](http://www.TahoeTransportation.org/transit). Follow TTD on Twitter [@TahoeTrans](https://twitter.com/TahoeTrans), and connect on Facebook [here](#).

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#### **About Tahoe Transportation District**

The Tahoe Transportation District (TTD) is a bi-state agency responsible for the management and implementation of safe, environmentally sound, multi-modal transportation projects and programs in the Lake Tahoe Region, including transit operations. TTD leads multi-jurisdictional infrastructure projects to make travel safer, improve access to recreation, and reduce traffic congestion and private car use. TTD focuses on transit’s pivotal role in improving air and water quality because more than 70 percent of the pollutants impacting Lake Tahoe’s clarity come from transportation system and built environment run-off. TTD has delivered numerous projects to help reduce environmental impacts and address the high demand residents and visitors place on the region’s transportation infrastructure, including transit solutions, roadway and safety enhancements, water quality improvements, and pedestrian/cyclist paths. For more information, please visit [TahoeTransportation.org](http://TahoeTransportation.org).

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