Category:	JAMM Transit
Sub Category:	Health and Safety
Effective Date:	06/2020
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Responsible: Transit Staff

References: Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and US Department of Transportation (DOT) implementation regulation found at 49 CFR Parts 27, 37, and 38, as amended.

Transit Infectious/COVID-19 Disease Policy

Purpose/Introduction

In an effort to decrease the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases, JAMM Transit has implemented the following policy with practices, procedures, and safety precautions for all staff and customers.

Policy

Public transit is an essential service and JAMM Transit wishes to take precautions for all drivers and riders through this policy implementing Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations to ensure riders and drivers remain safe and secure during all transportation services.

Driver Safety Guidelines

For JAMM Transit drivers, potential sources of exposure include having close contact with a passenger with or without COVID-19 or another infectious disease or by contacting surfaces touched or handled by a person with COVID-19 or another infectious disease. The following are guidelines to help prevent the spread of infectious disease to our employees and passengers:

- All drivers are encouraged to wear masks in vehicles while transporting passengers and assisting passengers outside of vehicles where social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Limit close contact with others by maintaining a distance of at least 6 feet, when possible.
- Request passengers avoid standing or sitting within 6 feet of the bus driver.
 - Passengers should be discouraged from riding in the front seat directly beside the driver in any vehicle. If passengers ride in the front seat, the driver and passenger must wear a mask at all times during transportation.
- Use gloves if required to touch surfaces contaminated by body fluids.
- Practice routine cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces, including surfaces in the driver cockpit commonly touched by the operator.
 - Every few hours the vehicles should be disinfected to help mitigate the spread of infectious diseases.
- Proper hand hygiene is an important infection control measure.
 - Regularly wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol.
 - Key times to clean hands include:
 - Before, during, and after preparing food

- Before eating food
- After using the bathroom
- After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- Additional workplace-specific times to clean hands include:
 - Before and after work shifts
 - Before and after work breaks
 - After touching frequently touched surfaces, such as seats and handrails
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.

Passenger Safety Guidelines

- JAMM Transit recommends all passengers wear masks when possible, this is for the safety of both the drivers and the passengers.
 - Masks will be provided.
- Passengers are asked to keep at least 3 to 6 feet from any other passenger and the driver at all times and to use the designated seating in each of the vehicles.
- Passengers who are riding on buses with hand sanitizer dispensers available are asked to utilize them to help the spread of infectious disease..
- Passengers are requested to refrain from riding if they have tested positive for COVID or another infectious disease.
- Passengers are requested to refrain from riding if they have the following symptoms: fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fever, chills, headache, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new loss of sense of taste or smell.

Safety Preparation by Agency

- Weekly sanitization procedures will be done in all of the vehicles including spraying with high quality disinfectant.
- Drivers must regularly clean all vehicles to ensure they are preventing the spread of infectious diseases.
- Air filtration systems are in all of the vehicles and should not be turned off at any time to ensure the air is being purified throughout transportation.
- Shields must remain in place at all times.
- Signage will be placed in all the buses following FTA Guidelines when implemented or mandated by FTA.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers will be placed in each of the buses to help give passengers an outlet for cleaning their hands before touching seats.
- Masks will be provided for both drivers and passengers.
- Cleaning supplies are available for the drivers to use.]

Wheelchair Securement

Wheelchair securement cannot be done effectively without the driver coming into direct contact with the passenger. Drivers need to follow the following procedures:

- Drivers who are touching a person's wheelchair must wear gloves and masks.
- Drivers and passengers should turn their face in the opposite direction while talking.
- Once the passenger is secured drivers must dispose of gloves and masks..
- Upon arrival at the destination and unsecuring the wheelchair drivers must again wear gloves and mask and dispose of them after the passenger is unsecured and has exited the vehicle.
- Passengers are encouraged to wear a mask during the entirety of the tie-down procedures.

Transporting a COVID-19 Positive Patient

JAMM Transit will work to ensure that no driver is placed at risk by transporting a confirmed patient or a patient who may be at risk of having COVID-19. The Federal Transit Administration has involved the "direct threat" rule in analyzing the rights of transit passengers who show symptoms of COVID-19. The rule, embodied in Americans with Disabilities Act regulations, holds that a person with a disability can be denied service if the person "represents a direct threat to the health or safety of others."

Dissemination of Policy

The policy will be made available to all employees through the agency's website. The agency will educate and train employees and supervisors regarding the policy and any conduct that could constitute a violation of the policy.