



METROWEST REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Public Transportation System

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MWRTA Response to Public Health Concerns Regarding Coronavirus

To assist in lowering the risk of spreading viruses, MWRTA is taking extra precautions regarding vehicle cleaning and hygiene education to all employees.

In addition to MWRTA's regularly scheduled weekly bus cleaning, MWRTA will clean the Fixed Route and Demand Response vehicles every day with a high quality disinfectant recommended by the Center for Disease Control (CDC). The seats behind the drivers area on all the Fixed Route buses has been taped off for use to help follow social distancing recommendations. All drivers are being provided disposable gloves daily, and have been given individual bottles of hand sanitizer. MWRTA will provide educational materials to all drivers and employees on proper hand washing and hygiene procedures, and is in the process of reaching out to all of its member community transit partners, including Councils on Aging and other public agencies. Additionally, the MWRTA is working to include in its required safety plan, remote access to Admin/Operations personnel to perform essential duties from home if necessary.

Effective Wednesday, March 25, 2020, MWRTA will be ending all Fixed Route by approximately 6:30 PM Monday-Friday; Saturday service will run regular schedules. MWRTA has made adjustments to the Commuter Shuttle schedules to accommodate the reduced MBTA train schedules. MWRTA has also been providing Demand Response service as usual.

MWRTA feels it is important to take preventative measures to ensure a minimal risk of spreading viruses to employees and customers.

Passengers should take extra precaution and be sure to follow CDC guidelines on handwashing and proper hygiene practices. These guidelines and additional information can be found at www.CDC.gov.

To avoid the spread of viruses, individuals should avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth, especially when in public spaces, cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue and immediately discard in the trash, wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds, and clean regularly touched objects such as door handles and sinks with a household cleaning spray or wipe.

MWRTA senior staff has determined that the agency is doing everything it is capable of in order to protect employees and customers, however, MWRTA will adjust or enhance preventative measures as necessary and/or as directed by public health officials.

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