

# Interim Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfection of Public Transportation Settings for COVID-19

## MCT Emergency Action Plan for sustaining service during COVID-19 Pandemic

### Background:

In December 2019, a new respiratory disease called Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) was detected in China. COVID-19 is caused by a virus (SARS-CoV-2) that is part of a large family of viruses called coronaviruses. To help prevent spread of COVID-19, public transportation officials should ensure staff continue to perform routine cleaning and may consider high-risk areas where additional **cleaning and disinfection is warranted on a regular schedule.**

### Routine Cleaning:

Soiled and frequently touched surfaces can be reservoirs for pathogens, resulting in a continued transmission to people. Therefore, for pathogenic microorganisms that can transmit disease through indirect contact (transmission through contaminated surfaces), extra attention should be paid to surfaces that are touched most often by different individuals. As part of standard infection control practices in public transportation settings, routine cleaning should be continued.

### Routine cleaning of public transportation settings include:

- Cleaning high contact surfaces that are touched by many different people, such as light switches, handrails and doorknobs/handles;
- Dust- and wet-mopping or auto-scrubbing floors;
- Vacuuming of entryways and high traffic areas;
- Removing trash;
- Cleaning restrooms;
- Wiping heat and air conditioner vents;
- Spot cleaning walls;
- Spot cleaning carpets;
- Dusting horizontal surfaces and light fixtures; and
- Cleaning spills.

## What steps Muskogee County Transit is taking for COVID-19?

### Now:

Public transportation officials should direct staff to continue performing routine cleaning. High-risk locations warrant cleaning and disinfection on a regular schedule.

### If an individual with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 was symptomatic in a specifically identified public transportation setting:

Cleaning and disinfection throughout the area should be completed.

Specific high-risk locations within public transportation areas warrant cleaning and disinfection before a confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs in a specific public transportation setting.

Examples of these locations may include:

#### Frequently Touched Surfaces

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces on a periodic schedule as operational considerations allow, which may range from at least daily to up to 72 hours.

#### Cleaning and Disinfection:

Cleaning removes germs, dirt and impurities from surfaces or objects, while disinfecting kills germs on surfaces or objects. If a laboratory confirmed case of COVID-19 was symptomatic while in a specifically identified public transportation setting (such as a train or bus), staff should perform cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched areas throughout the area.

**Step 1: Cleaning:** Always clean surfaces prior to use of disinfectants in order to reduce soil and remove germs. Dirt and other materials on surfaces can reduce the effectiveness of disinfectants. For combination products that can both clean and disinfect, always follow the instructions on the specific product label to ensure effective use.

**Step 2: Disinfection:** Cleaning of soiled areas must be completed prior to disinfection to ensure the effectiveness of the disinfectant product. If EPA- and DEC\*-registered products specifically labeled for SARS-CoV-2 are not available, disinfect surfaces using a disinfectant labeled to be effective against rhinovirus and/or human coronavirus. If such products are unavailable, it is also acceptable to use a fresh 2% chlorine bleach solution (approximately 1 tablespoon of bleach in 1 quart of water). Prepare the bleach solution daily or as needed. EPA and DEC\*-registered disinfectants specifically labeled as effective against SARS-CoV-2 may become commercially available at a future time and once available, those products should be used for targeted disinfection of frequently touched surfaces.

- Label directions must be followed when using disinfectants to ensure the target viruses are effectively killed. This includes adequate contact times (i.e., the amount of time a disinfectant should remain on surfaces to be effective), which may vary between five and ten minutes after application. Disinfectants that come in a wipe form will also list effective contact times on their label.
- For disinfectants that come in concentrated forms, it is important to carefully follow instructions for making the diluted concentration needed to effectively kill the target virus. This information can be found on the product label.

Cleaning and disinfecting should be conducted by staff who have been trained to use products in a safe and effective manner. Staff should be reminded to ensure procedures for safe and effective use of all products are followed. Staff do not need to wear respiratory protection while cleaning. Safety instructions are listed on product labels and include the personal protective equipment (e.g., gloves)

that should be used. Place all used gloves in a bag that can be tied closed before disposing of them with other waste. Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds immediately after removing gloves or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available. Soap and water should be used if hands are visibly soiled.

#### **Staff Guidance**

All staff should be reminded of the importance of routine hand and respiratory hygiene practices.

#### **Hand hygiene:**

- Regular hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds should be done:
  - o Before eating;
  - o After sneezing, coughing, or nose blowing;
  - o After using the restroom;
  - o Before handling food;
  - o After touching or cleaning surfaces that may be contaminated; and
  - o After using shared equipment like computer keyboards and mice.

If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

#### **Respiratory hygiene:**

- Covering coughs and sneezes with tissues or the corner of elbow; and
- Disposing of soiled tissues immediately after use.

#### **Personal Protective Equipment:**

- Staff interacting with the general public do not currently need to wear respiratory or other personal protective equipment.
- Staff performing cleaning and disinfection should follow recommendations for personal protective equipment listed on product labels, per above guidance.

## Scalable response plan for worsening circumstances:

### Stage 1:

Increased routine cleaning of all Transit vehicles as mentioned above. Post health and safety notices in each vehicle urging good hygiene.

Stage 2: Daily Full decontamination of all Transit vehicles that service the public. This includes quarantining vehicles and drivers that exhibit signs and symptoms of the disease. Employee's will be referred to the Muskogee County Public Health Department for free clinical testing for CoVID-19.

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Stage3: Reduction of services. Scaling back services will greatly impact the local social economical structure of the Muskogee area. This action will only be implemented when such notice from the Public Health Department advises against citizens using public transportation.

Route Cancellation will be as follows:

Priority 1: Closing all city bus routes, Closing Cherokee Nation inter-community transportation, Muskogee County Inter-community route service Haskell and Warner areas. Including medical trips to Tulsa and outlying areas.

Priority 2: Closing In town Curb to Curb demand ride routes, this will impact rides to work and/or rides for customers to go shopping. This will include Incore / Adult Nutrition for Muskogee and Fort Gibson. As well as TANF services.

Priority 3: Closure of All services including Soonerride Trips, until time where threat of infection with public peer to peer contact is eliminated and clearance from the Public Health Department is granted. This will affect Drivers as well as non-critical office staff.

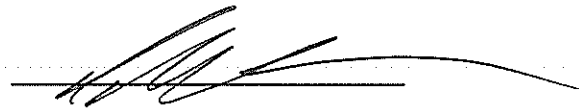
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The preceding plan is being implemented as an emergency measure with guidance from the World Health Organization, Centers for Disease control, Oklahoma Public Health Department. In cooperation with Muskogee Emergency Management, Muskogee City Planners. Notices to employees and public partners will be updated as they become available. All questions regarding our routes or services can be directed to the Muskogee County Public Transit Operations Manager.

Jonathan Moore

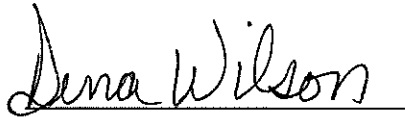
[jmoore@muskogeecountytransit.org](mailto:jmoore@muskogeecountytransit.org)

This Emergency Procedure guide has been reviewed by the Operations Manager and the Executive director and is in effect as of March 13<sup>th</sup> 2020 and will remain in effect until such time as Management has deemed necessary for the health and safety of the Employees and the Public.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Moore', is written over a solid horizontal line. The signature is stylized with several loops and a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Jonathan Moore

Ops Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dena Wilson', is written over a solid horizontal line. The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent 'D' and 'W'.

Dena Wilson

Executive Director