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Safe Actions For Employee Returns

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Technology and COVID-19:

Technology for Public Transportation

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COVID-19 and Technology Webinar Series



Mitigating Risk with Technology

Aug. 20



Technology for Testing and Contact Tracing

Sept. 10



Technology for Public Transportation

Aug. 27



Digital health/telemedicine

Sept. 17



Technology for Physical Distancing

Sept. 3



Long Term Response to COVID-19

Sept. 24

Guest Speakers



Brian Alberts
Director of Safety
American Public Transportation Association



Michelle Couto
Health and Safety Consultant
AECOM

Discussion

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*Technology and COVID-19:
Public Transportation*

What has been the transportation industry's response to COVID-19? And what has been your organization's response?

Public Transportation and COVID-19

- Public transportation agencies continue to play a critical role during the COVID-19 pandemic response, as we navigate the road to recovery throughout the U.S.
- Tireless efforts to provide rail and bus service so that frontline employees can get to work, underscoring how essential it is to keep public transit running.



COVID-19 Initiatives - Advocacy

- **CARES Act** –
Led effort for \$25 billion for public transit agencies; \$1 billion for Amtrak; employer tax relief initiatives; and \$350 billion in business loan programs
- **Economic Recovery Package** –
Advocating for a \$178 billion multi-year reauthorization in the next COVID-19 aid package.
- **“The Economic Impact of Public Transportation”** –
Showcasing a new APTA report that shows a 5 : 1 economic ROI from investing in transit.
- **FY 2021 Funding** –
Pushing APTA’s priorities for the FY 2021 transportation appropriations bill.

COVID-19 Initiatives – Other Efforts

REGULATORY RELIEF

- **Deadline Extensions –**
APTA successfully requested temporary relief from existing regulations by **FTA, FRA & TSA.**

OTHER RESOURCES

- **COVID-19 Resources Page** – Updated daily at <https://www.apta.com/public-transit-response-to-coronavirus/>
- **Road To Recovery Guide** – Strategies and tactical guidance to keep transit agencies safe developed by WSP USA, Inc. and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (April 2020; Updated August 2020)
- Whitepaper on **Developing a Pandemic Virus Service Restoration Checklist** (May 2020)
- Whitepaper on **Cleaning and Disinfecting Best Practices** (mid June 2020)

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Technology and COVID-19: Public Transportation

How are you protecting users from COVID-19? How has or how could technology help?

Transit and COVID-19 Protections

“This is going to be a marathon, not a sprint”

- Separate critical staff
- Frequent Communication to Staff, Operators and Customers
- Follow proper guidance from CDC and other national preeminent public health experts
- Promote Physical Distancing/Mitigate Crowding
- Information sharing with industry peers (APTA)



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Technology and COVID-19: Public Transportation

What best practices are you seeing from across the country?

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***Technology and COVID-19:
Public Transportation***

Innovations & Technology Abound

Antioch to SFO (Millbrae)

Passenger Load for Week of Monday, August 3 to Friday, August 7, 2020

BAY PT	N CNC	CONCD	PHILL	W CRK	LAFAY	ORNDA	ROCKR	MACAR	19ST	12ST	W OAK	EMBAR	MONTG	POWEL	CIVIC	16ST	24ST	GLNPK	BALPK	DALY	COLMA	S SAN	SBRN	SFO
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5:01 15	5:08 17	5:11 18	5:16 19	5:19 20	5:23 20	5:28 20	5:34 20	5:37 19	5:40 19	5:43 19	5:47 19	5:54 15	5:56 13	5:58 10	5:59 6	6:02 5	6:04 5	6:07 4	6:09 3	6:13 3	6:17 3	6:20 2	6:23 2	6:28 0
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LEGEND

0 - 24

25 - 30

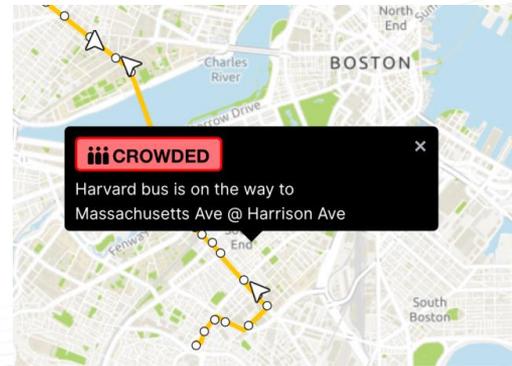
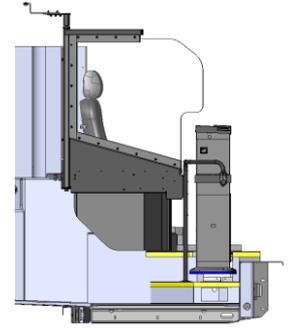
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Innovations & Technology Abound

Additional Technologies in Public Transportation, in response to COVID-19, include:

- Contactless Fare Payment Systems
- Use of data to communicate with passengers and information to show how crowded trains/buses are (i.e. BART, MBTA)
- UV Light and HVAC cleaning & filtration (SEPTA)
- Modeling
- Rear boarding on buses and Bus Shields to protect operators



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Technology and COVID-19: Public Transportation

How are transportation companies ensuring they are providing a safe and clean environment for riders? (how we do gain the trust back from riders?)

One example: APTA Cleaning and Disinfecting Vehicles and Facilities White Paper

Cleaning and Disinfecting Vehicles/Facilities White Paper:

- Discusses current industry practices for cleaning and disinfecting transit vehicles and facilities in response to a pandemic virus.
- Focuses on the mitigation of contagious virus spread within public transportation systems through various maintenance, cleaning and disinfecting methods and products.
- Technology such as the use of UV Light to clean vehicles (NYC Transit) and UV Light in HVAC filters (SEPTA) is discussed in the White Paper

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Technology and COVID-19: Public Transportation

What are you putting in place to ensure transit workers are safe and protected?

APTA's Transit Recovery Commitment/Seal of Approval

OUR COMMITMENTS TO RIDERS	RIDERS' COMMITMENTS TO ALL	OUR COMMITMENTS TO RIDERS	RIDERS' COMMITMENTS TO ALL
OFFICIAL GUIDANCE		INFORMED CHOICES	
<p>Agencies Follow Official Guidelines</p> <p>Our policies and practices follow the latest science-based guidance from public health experts and agencies</p>	<p>Riders Follow Official Guidelines</p> <p>Riders of diverse ages, needs and abilities can feel safe and confident by following official guidance from public health experts and agencies.</p>	<p>Information & Resources</p> <p>Timely information about high-density routes and vehicles, and changes in service will be shared with riders on a frequent basis so they can make informed travel choices.</p>	<p>Physical Distancing</p> <p>Riders will practice physical distancing to the degree practical. Riders and operators will avoid physical contact.</p>
PROTECTING EACH OTHER		HEALTH FIRST	
<p>Cleaning & Disinfecting</p> <p>Vehicles and stations will be cleaned, disinfected, and maintained daily using EPA-approved disinfectants and accepted industry practices.</p>	<p>Face Coverings & Clean Hands</p> <p>When entering a public transit station or vehicle, riders will wear face coverings and, where possible, use hand sanitizer / sanitizing wipes.</p>	<p>Healthy Transit Employees</p> <p>All public transit personnel will use face coverings and other personal protective <u>equipment, and take leave</u> at the sign of illness or possible exposure to the virus.</p>	<p>Healthy Passengers</p> <p>Before using public transit, riders will assess their own health, including any risk of illness they may pose to others.</p>

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Technology and COVID-19: Public Transportation

What are the barriers to implementing technology solutions?

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Technology and COVID-19: Public Transportation

Barriers to Implementing Technology Solutions

Potential Barriers to Implementing Technology Solutions

- Funding is always a potential barrier. However, APTA ensured that transit agencies got funding through the CARES act, so that supplied some much-needed money for transit agencies to buy masks, cleaning materials, face shields, and other necessities as well as invest in technologies.
- There is also a barrier in terms of low-income folks who may not have a smart phone and cannot download apps.



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Technology and COVID-19: Public Transportation

What does the future of the transportation industry look like under this new threat? Will any of this technology become permanent?

Future of Transportation Industry and Permanence of Technology

Future of Transit Industry and Permanence of Technology

- Transit transported essential workers when other modes were virtually shut down. Many folks don't have cars and need public transit to commute and conduct daily activities.
- Public transportation is ready to deal with COVID-19 and has many protections in place for riders. Also, studies have shown that taking public transit is just as safe or safer than other activities and is not a spreader of the virus.
- We're still figure out what the future looks like, but we think it will involve more technology and innovative solutions.
- CIOs at transit agencies are using this time to accelerate their visions for their agencies.



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Please complete our follow-up survey, we want your feedback!