

First Transit

800 NE 2nd Street PO Box 393 McMinnville, OR 97128

YCBus.org

Main

503-474-4900

Newberg

503-538-7433

Translation/Accessible Alternate Formats

503-474-4900

Central Translation

1-800-CALL-CLI

Text-to-Voice (TTY) Relay

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release May 1, 2020

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Yamhill County Transit Service COVID-19 Update Service Changes Effective May 4, 2020.

Yamhill County Oregon- Yamhill County Transit (YCT) operates transit service in Yamhill County with connections to Tri-Met, Cherriots and Tillamook County Transit District.

Yamhill County Transit wants to thank all essential workers and those working on the front lines. We are so appreciative of the amazing First Transit staff, the managers, drivers, dispatchers, field supervisors and maintenance staff. They are providing an essential service in our community under very challenging circumstances. Show them your appreciation if you have the opportunity.

YCT staff continues to monitor ridership and staffing levels and will adjust services as needed. Ridership has increased slightly and is currently at approximately 25% of normal.

Service Changes:

Effective 5/4/20, YCT is <u>requiring</u> all riders to wear a face covering, such as a mask or bandana. Cherriots in Salem is also requiring face coverings.

Effective 5/4/20, YCT is <u>reinstating</u> the two morning trips that were discontinued on April 6, 2020.

- Route 33: 5:55 am and 7:00 am REINSTATED
- Route 44: 6:25 am and 7:52 am REINSTATED

The City of Newberg routes 5 and 7 are still **temporarily discontinued** until further notice.

Yamhill County Transit **continues the fare free policy** until further notice.

YCT is still allowing people on the bus for essential trips. Essential trips for work and critical needs like groceries or medication. Everyone else **PLEASE STAY HOME**.

What is Yamhill County Transit doing to keep you safe?

- **Face Masks:** Transit Drivers are wearing face masks and buses are equipped with protective barriers for the driver to limit exposure.
- Cleaning: We are wiping all frequently touched surfaces on our buses with disinfectant each night. In addition, frequently touched surfaces at the transit center and on the buses throughout the day are being wiped down with disinfectant.
- Social Distancing: To help with social distancing on the bus, certain seats are blocked on the bus. YCT has extra buses staged to help with routes where buses are getting full. When possible, riders may board through the back doors. This is to provide drivers more space so they can stay healthy.

What can you do?

We urge riders to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recommendations:

- Social distancing: Practice "social distancing" keeping at least six feet between you and other people, including our operators and employees.
- Wash your hands: Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- **Do not touch your face**: Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your cough or sneeze: Cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw that tissue in the trash. If you do not have a tissue, use your elbow (and not your hands).
- Stay home if you are not feeling well
- Wear a face covering: Wear a face covering when out in public, and now you are required to wear face covering when riding Yamhill County Transit.

Please visit the <u>YCBus.org</u> website for the most current updates and visit the Rider Facebook page at <u>YCBus Info</u> for real time updates.

The Oregon Department of Transportation Rail and Public Transit Division has an informative Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) website that provides valuable information for transit riders and stakeholders regarding COVID-19 as it relates to public transportation in Oregon.

ODOT-COVID-19_Frequently Asked Questions

Where to get info about COVID-19

Web

- Oregon Health Authority
 Yamhill County Public Health
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Facebook

- Oregon Health Authority
- Centers for Disease Control